

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES
OF
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OF
NASEBY.

THE
N. E. B. Y.
HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES
IN THE
OF
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N. E. B. Y.

AND DIRECTOR OF THE
N. E. B. Y. AND ANTIQUITIES
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OF THE N. E. B. Y.

1844

THE
HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES
OF
NASEBY,

IN THE
COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.

BY THE REV. JOHN MASTIN,
VICAR OF NASEBY.

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TEMPORUM VARIETATES FORTUNÆQUE VICISSITUDINES.
CIC. EPIST. AD FAM.

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M.DCC.XCII.

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THE
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OF
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For Banks

By the Rev. John M. Austin
Vicar of Masefield

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TO
GEORGE ASHBY, ESQ.

THE

FOLLOWING SHEETS ARE INSCRIBED,

AS A SMALL TESTIMONY

OF THE

AUTHOR'S GRATITUDE

FOR THE MANY FAVOURS CONFERRED UPON HIM

BY HIS

WORTHY PATRON AND BENEFACTOR.

TO
GEORGE ASHBY 1836

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IN TESTIMONY

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BY HIS

WORTHY PATRON AND BENEFACTOR

PREFACE.

THE following local description is the production of a few hours amusement, abstracted from the duties of my profession; and it may be found useful in some respects as it may tend to elucidate particular circumstances which either have not been known, or not well remembered.

INASEBY, on several accounts, is very conspicuous in history, and its natural productions are various and pleasing. It affords to a contemplative mind, recreations substantial and instructive; and acts its part in the demonstration of a God. In botany it excels: producing a plant, not to be found in any other part of this island. Its fossils, springs, peat-earth, &c. are of no small note, having attracted the attention of a very eminent writer*. I have endeavoured, as much as possible, to collect, and bring into one point of view, the various occurrences of nature and incident, and its revolutions in history, both ecclesiastical and civil, and to relate them in the most plain and simple manner.

* Rev. Mr. Morton.

SIDNEY says, "Nothing is worth a wise man's study, except religion and politicks;" but surely, it is presumed, that local publications have, at least, a local advantage, as the means of information within a given limit, is preferable to works of much greater merit, from a distant quarter.

Besides, topographical researches are now the spirit of the times, men of the first erudition not thinking them beneath their attention. To Mr. NICHOLS, who is publishing his history of Leicestershire, I am indebted for some useful hints; and am greatly obliged to several gentlemen in this neighbourhood for the encouragement they have given me, by liberally offering me the use of their libraries. The searching into the antiquities and historical records of my place of residence, was, at first, intended only to gratify my own curiosity, but upon investigating some circumstances that afforded me more information than was expected, I presume to submit the following sheets with all their imperfections about them to the candor of my numerous and most respectable Subscribers.

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ISTORY OF WARE

in the

County of Warwick, is seventy-eight

and London, twenty-four.

and six from Market Harborough.

and in a very great degree the capital of

the County, as the name in the title

implies to imply the history from

the



A Representation of the Armies
 OF
KING CHARLES I.
 AND
SIR THOMAS FAIRFAX,
 exhibiting
the exact Order in which the several Bodies
 OF
 Infantry & Cavalry were drawn up,
Preparatory to the
BATTLE OF NASEBY,
 fought the 14th of June 1645.

The King's Baggage



the Saxon word *nas* signifying a centre.

~~It is situated in the parish of St. Andrew's, near the town of Northampton.~~

stands upon an eminence, supposed to be

the highest ground in England. This town

is called *Naseby* in the old Saxon tongue.

By a late survey taken for navigation

intended to be brought from the Oxford

HISTORY of NASEBY.

Naseby, which is at least fifty feet lower

than the town, was found to be three hundred

feet higher than the river *Nine* or *Nen*

at Northampton, which is nine inches

higher than the Thames at Oxford. Sup-

NASEBY in Northamptonshire, in the

hundred of *Guilborough*, is seventy-eight

miles from London, twelve from North-

ampton, and six from *Market Harborough*,

is situated in, or very near, the center of

the kingdom, as its name in the old spel-

ling seems to imply, viz. *Navesby*, from

the Saxon word *nas* signifying a centre.

~~It is a place of great antiquity, and is situated in the parish of St. Andrew, near the town of Northampton.~~

stands upon an eminence, supposed to be

the highest ground in England. But there

is a hill which is higher than this.

By a late survey taken for a navigation

intended to be brought from the Oxford

HISTORY of NASEBY.

Naseby, which is at least fifty feet lower

than the town, was found to be three hun-

dred feet higher than the river *Nine* or *Nen*

at Northampton, which is nine inches

higher than the Thames at Oxford. Sup-

NASEBY in Northamptonshire, in the

hundred of *Guilborough*, is seventy-eight

miles from *London*, twelve from *North-*

ampton, and six from *Market Harborough*,

is situated in, or very near, the center of

the kingdom, as its name in the old spel-

ling seems to imply, viz, *Navesby*, from

the Saxon word *nape*, signifying a centre. It is to be observed also, that this village stands upon an eminence, supposed to be the highest ground in England.

By a late survey taken for a navigation intended to be brought from the Oxford canal to Northampton, the ground near Naseby, which is at least fifty feet lower than the town, was found to be three hundred feet higher than the river Nine or Nen at Northampton, which is nine inches higher than the Thames at Oxford. Supposing then that this river falls one hundred feet only from Oxford to London, Naseby will be found upwards of four hundred feet higher than the Thames at London. And I have not a doubt, but the fall would be discovered to be much greater both to the German and Irish Oceans. No water runs

into

into

into the lordship from any quarters; and it is remarkable, that from one land upon a furlong called Gallows furlong*, running north and south, about a quarter of a mile north of the town, the rain which falls on the east side goes toward the German sea, and that falling on the west side immediately goes toward the Irish, whence one might be almost tempted to call this one land the highest ground in the kingdom.

Naseby, at present, is an open or common field of extensive bounds, supposed to be (to measure into every angle) from eighteen to twenty miles in circumference, and to consist of several thousand acres. A

* A tradition still remains in the village of there having been gallows upon this furlong; and as Naseby was once a market town, as will be shown hereafter, it might have the jurisdiction of trying and executing felons, guilty of offences within its own precincts.

square of two miles and a half may be taken in it without touching any of the sides, which is exactly four thousand acres; and the offsets or angles from which lines must be drawn, will probably amount to near two thousand more. It is bounded on the south by the lordships of Thornby and Cold-Ashby, on the west by Sulby, on the north by Sibbertoft and Clipstone, on the east by Kelmarsh, Haselbeech, and Cottesbrook.

The village consists of one hundred dwellings, and contains about six hundred inhabitants.

Its air is very salubrious, I suppose from its high situation, not being subject to fogs or damps, which are experienced in vallies and low places, and which are found to

pre-

prejudicial to the constitutions of many. As a proof of the above, its inhabitants mostly live to a very old age. I have buried several from eighty to near an hundred years, particularly a Mrs. Basset at the age of ninety-six; indeed they are proverbial; being called Naseby children, frequently becoming a second time so by age.

A very remarkable circumstance, and well worth recording, happened to a man of the name of Corby, a farmer of this place; at seventy years of age he had an entire new and regular set of teeth cut, which grew to a proper size, and continued firm and good to the time of his death; so good, to use his son's expression (now living) that he would quarrel with his family for crusts. He died in the ninety-fourth year of his age.

They speak a kind of provincial dialect, and in general vociferate very loudly; supposed to be principally owing to their being brought up in so elevated a situation; where the winds, storms and tempests, particularly in the winter season, prevail so far as to confound the language.

‘Huge uproar lords it wide’;

‘But what of this? these infant tempests what?’

The mockery of winter.

THOMPSON.

The village stands nearly in the centre

of the lordship (a favorable circumstance

for an inclosure) its form nearly that of a

rectangular parallelogram, the longest streets

* I wrote this the 21st of March 1791, a day so tem-

pestuous, that it verified the above observation.

running

running from north to south, about two thirds of a mile; and if we except a few of the modern and best houses, it is built principally with a kind of kealy earth dug near it; excellent in its kind, and the best calculated for building I ever saw; walls built with this earth are exceedingly firm and strong, and, if kept dry, are said to be more durable than if built with soft stone or indifferent bricks. There are walls in some of the houses said to be two hundred years old built of this earth; and were they drawn over with lime-mortar, and marked or lined, to appear as stone work, which might be done at a moderate expence, their appearance would be respectable*; but as the present occupiers are only

* But instead of this, the new coat which they have once a year consists of cowdung spread upon them to dry for firing.

tenants at will, improvements of this kind are hardly to be expected.

Indeed the farm houses of Mr. Ashby are an exception; that gentleman having paid the utmost attention to the repairs of his buildings, and the conveniences of his tenants.

The village appears to have extended more to the south, as foundations of buildings continue to be dug up; and the home grounds shew vestiges of old fences, which have formerly divided them into parts seemingly calculated for orchards and gardens to houses now entirely dilapidated*.

* Old people remember a large farm house and buildings which stood in Bunche's Close, pulled down, belonging to a farm called the Hall Farm. The last person who lived there was a Mr. Johnathan Ellis.

I should

I should presume (if I may hazard a conjecture) that this part of the country hath been very woody; for the oldest houses in Naseby are, as to the wood part, mostly oak, and some of them of the most antique architecture, called forked buildings, which forks are all of oak, very rough, strong, uncouth, and put together in a rude manner, and of a magnitude which certainly implies their growing in the neighbourhood; for if we take into consideration the badness of the roads, and the want of proper vehicles for the removal of heavy timber, at the time these houses were built, it must be supposed, that this wood grew near the spot, whence it was brought to the place to build the houses. Since the burial, it is said about

Part of Naseby to the south still retains the name of Knutcoat; and Haselbeech and Thornby, villages in the neighbourhood*,

* One mile and a half from Naseby.

are a corroborating proof of brush or under-wood. Knuteoat was formerly, according to tradition, a hamlet in the parish of Naseby, and had a chapel of ease belonging to it, the foundations of which, with the boundary of the consecrated ground are still very evident, and I am informed, when the present wind-mill which stands upon its site, was first erected, about sixty years ago, human bones were found

That the inhabitants did bury there is highly probable, for upon the fifth day of March, being accompanied by my brother, the Rev. Thomas Martin, I took up a complete human skeleton, which had not been disturbed since the burial, it laid about two feet and an half from the surface, and

† Or rather parochial chapel, having the liberty of sepulture.

not-

notwithstanding it must have been buried three hundred (perhaps five hundred) years; the leg, thigh, and arm bones were in a state sufficiently strong to be taken up whole. The teeth not in the least decayed, the enamel clear and bright, and in a wonderful preservation. That these were the bones of a man, and that a young one, was sufficiently evident; they being too large to belong to one of the other sex, particularly the rotula, or knee joint, was rather enormous; the os femoris eighteen inches long, and the other proportionably great.

That he was young may be collected from the teeth; for they were not much worn, and not one was wanted. The register of Naseby begins in 1563, and no mention is made in it of any burial at the chapel. As it is common for bones

that

that have been long buried to crumble into dust upon being exposed to the atmosphere, it surprised us to find that these had not the least tendency to do so, but on the contrary that they became moist and oily to a degree almost exceeding belief, and had we been so lucky as to try the experiment of keeping them twenty or thirty minutes in the air, there is reason to suppose that they would have emitted drops of liquid moisture.

I have been more particular upon this subject, to shew, that in some kind of earth, bones will lie much longer than in others, before they decay. This earth is a dry loamy kind of soil, fruitful in verdure, and nearly the best in the Lordship.

History is entirely silent as to the time when

when this chapel stood, and tradition only says, there was once such a place. Indeed, an old man, William Heson, now living, remembers about seventy years ago several loads of stones being carried from thence to a neighbouring turnpike road. The ground is the property of George Ambly, Esq; patron of the church.

I have repeatedly dug in this ground, in hopes of discovering some stone with an inscription, but have been disappointed. Monumental stones, perhaps, at the time this chapel stood, were not so much in use as at the present time.

That population has increased during the last two centuries in this village, appears from comparing which I have carefully done, the first twenty years of the register,

with

with the twenty years last past. The statement is for the first twenty, baptisms two hundred and fifty-three. Burials one hundred and eleven. Marriages forty-six. For the last twenty, baptisms three hundred. Burials two hundred and seventeen. Marriages seventy-seven. Here is, we see, an increase of forty-seven in the baptisms; notwithstanding there are lately several children of dissenting parents, who are not registered. In the burials, one hundred and six, which is greater in proportion. In the marriages thirty-one, but they can be no certain rule, as before the late marriage act took place, the people were married in the parish which they found most convenient. This extensive, and almost boundless open field, consists of about two thirds pas-

ture, and one of arable, the whole very improveable by an inclosure. The farmers, twenty-one in number, who keep teams, support constantly four working blacksmiths, two working wheelwrights, besides carpenters, one collar-maker, and of course many labourers, shoemakers, two butchers, and one baker.

The mode of husbandry is regular, as to the culture, the lordship being divided into three parts, not by fences, but by marks made in the ground, called field marks, so that there may be said to be three fields, viz. one wheat, rye, and barley, one beans and oats, and one fallow. Every field has certain portions of red, or kealy soil, upon which is sown rye, the stronger and blacker lands are sown with wheat and barley, and this always after a fallow.

The

Oats

Oats are sown after rye, and beans after wheat and barley. This is the process constantly practised. So that a man ever so ingenious in agriculture, hath no opportunity of displaying his abilities at Naseby. He is confined to old customs, and can only do the same thing with his neighbours. The tenants are certainly blind to their own interest, having every year an opportunity of sowing their red land with turnips, which they totally neglect: they cannot be ignorant of the advantage of this mode of husbandry, as it is often practised in open fields, and, I believe, generally at Rothwell in this neighbourhood. The increase of grain is nearly in the following proportion: wheat twenty bushels; rye from twenty-eight to thirty bushels; barley twenty-four bushels; oats twenty bushels per acre, field measure, *communibus annis.* The

The stock in the field consists of two thousand eight hundred sheep, three hundred and sixty of the cow kind, and about three hundred mares, being more profitable than barren stock, where the pastures are so extensive. Here is nothing remarkable in the breed of stock, except swine, which are of the largest kind, and so very valuable for the distillers, navy, &c. that they are particularly described by Arthur Young, Esq*, whose judgment is deservedly held in the highest estimation in all parts of Europe. The cows have been rather improved of late years, Mr. Ashby having presented his tenants with very good bulls. The cows lie in the farm yards during winter, and upon the 12th of May go to pasturage in the field, in two herds, called the upper and

* *Vide Farmer's Tour through the east of England, vol. 1.*

lower herd, where they have liberty to graze till St. Andrew, old stile. They are kept by men, who have one shilling and six-pence per head for their work.

The sheep are, as to quality, the same as formerly, and although so numerous, are not so profitable as might be expected; numbers of them dying in the winter season for want of shelter and pasturage, and sometimes they are subject to a spring or summer rot. This chiefly arises from the neglect of draining, which is the more to be lamented, because the ground, if laid dry, would become sound land, except a few bogs, which sheep are not often inclined to feed upon. They practise a mode of draining with a large plow, called the town plow, made exceedingly strong in every part, having two coulter: it cuts a drain

one foot both deep and wide, and throws out the earth the same distance from the side to the right hand. This plow is drawn by ten or twelve horses, a team made by as many farmers contributing each his horse. But this scheme, from the obstinacy and perverseness of some, is often rendered abortive. They put back into the drain the earth thrown out, to prevent, as they say, its lying in the way of the scythe at hay time. Would it not be much better to collect it into heaps, adding to it lime or dung, or both, making by this method a compost, and in my opinion a valuable one, to dress their grass land?

The tenants stock by the yard-land, which consists of no determinate number of acres, but is the same as oxgangs, or ox-shuts, as they are called in the vale of

Belvoir, and many other parts of England; and in old law books, signifies in some counties fifteen acres, and in others twenty; in some twenty-four, and in others thirty or forty acres*: these differ exceedingly with respect to the quantity of arable; but all of them carry the same stock.

Upon a dry hill north of the village, called lodge hill, was formerly a rabbit warren, upon which was a house, as may be seen by the spot on which it stood; the house itself is entirely demolished. But the rabbits being found extremely destructive of the adjoining crops of grain, &c. it was agreed to allow to the tenant the pastur-

* Some think a yard-land, which varies in quantity, is as much arable as was suited to the stock of cattle which a man's yard could maintain in winter, and this accounts for its varying in the same field. Sufficient common is the run for the same on the common in summer.

Hon. D. Barrington, on statutes, 48, 49, 1775.

age of an extra flock of sheep on the commons, upon his consenting to have the rabbits destroyed: and that he should every year chuse a walk for such sheep, which is now called the choice walk. The other tenants take their walks by lot. Some years ago, likewise, the cows, in the summer months, were kept by the respective occupiers, upon grass land dispersed about the field, every man keeping his beasts upon his own land. But this mode being found not only vexatious, but ruinous, it was agreed in 1733, that pastures should be taken from the extremities of the field, to which every man should contribute grass land in proportion to his stock; this, by referees, was settled, and the land appropriated for this purpose, entered into a book as a proper terrier, to prevent confusion at any future time, and the cows now, as I before observed, go in herds. The

The nature of the soil is various, I mean as to the upper, or vegetable stratum, all very capable of improvement; and it is generally allowed, that no field in Northamptonshire would answer better by inclosure, than that of Naseby. Here is good strong land; fine flades for meadows; red hills, good for turnips and artificial grasses, black woodcock, or falling land, now grass, but much to be improved by plowing. Some few bogs, which might either by underdraining be laid dry, or rendered still more valuable by being planted.

Here is dug excellent gravel, which used in a proper season, binds like a floor of plaster. * Good sand for building; stone

* One day when I was curious in examining some gravel brought into the village, and found several fossil shells, &c. a neighbour standing by asked my opinion about them; I answered, I have no doubt but they have lain in the earth ever since the flood. A flood! He exclaimed, There never was a flood at Naseby!

very

very little; a kind of lime-stone has been found, but in quantities too small to answer digging.

But there is a sort of peat-earth, very little inferior to what I have seen in Lincolnshire, and it is a matter of surprize that it is not more used as fuel; last year I had some dug, and after being dried, it was laid upon fires as backing, and was, in fact, as good as indifferent coal, and has not a disagreeable smell. William Hanbury, Esq. of Kelmarsh-hall, has dug great quantities of it as fuel for his hot houses. There are several sorts of this peat-earth, some, particularly, the upper spit, very full of fibrous roots with but little earth; others, lower, have the appearance of rotten saw-dust, mixed with a kind of red moss, wet and heavy when first dug, but when dry,

becomes light and hard; this is by much the best sort. There is another kind, but inferior, being rather too full of clayey earth. This appears to be the natural earth, which seems to corroborate what Mr. Morton says "we cannot but conclude that they (the strata of peat) were framed at the same time, that is, at the general compilation of the strata, and have not been produced since, either here or there, by inundations or deterration*."

Marl has certainly been dug for manure by the ancient farmers and occupiers of land in this field, as appears by several pits in the Lordship, of such a magnitude that thousands of loads of earth must have been carried away; for the margins are very little prominent from the surrounding surface;

* *Nat. Hist. of Northamptonshire.*

and

and have a mouth, or aperture, on the lower side to admit carts. * I suppose, for the purpose of loading. I have not a doubt, from the experiments I have tried to analyse this marl, but it would be found of great utility, if laid upon the red, or rye soil of the field; but no argument whatever could possibly induce the present race of men here to try its effects. It has probably been long in disuse.

Amongst the gravel, in a stratum of six or seven feet deep, are found sea shells, and especially, "those of the bulkier and firmer sort, and some other extraneous bodies." The large, round, and convex oyster-shell

* Waggon were not then in use. Mr. Shughburgh of this place, who died in the middle of the last century, is said to have had the first waggon in Northamptonshire. This gentleman served the office of high sheriff, 22d. Jam. 1st. for the county of Northampton.

in abundance; one of which I have whose valves were joined together like those of the live oyster at sea, which is not common. It has been since divided, and exhibits the same vestigia of the tendons whereby the animal is fastened to its shell.

“The oyster-shell of a longer and narrower shape,” and here called kite-shells.

This last in particular, shews more of a shell than any of the others found here, the thin part of the convex valve still retaining its transparent colour, and when broken, or separated into thin plates, which may easily be done, the smaller particles have, in some sort, the appearance of pearl*. There are also cockle-shells of various sorts found in

* The history of the fossil shells of the oyster kind, affords abundance of proofs, and such as are beyond exception, that they are shells indeed.

Nat. Hist. of Northamptonshire.

this

this gravel. A few muscles. As also astroites, or starry stone, such as is found upon the surface of a blue stone dug in Clipstone field.

I have but once seen an ammonites modiolaris, * but that a curious one indeed: the wreaths display a polish exceedingly beautiful, so as scarcely to be improved by the hand of the lapidary.

Here, also, is belemnites, or thunder stone, of a conical shape; and a variety of semipellucid flints of almost all figures. I have one by me so much like a hazle nut, that it has frequently been taken for one.

How the above mentioned fossils became thus lodged in the earth, I refer the reader

* *Vide Hist. of Northamptonshire.*

to the account given of them in Dr. Woodward's natural history of the earth*, it being too foreign to my present purpose to enter upon this enquiry.

NASEBY is remarkable on account of its springs, as also for their different qualities; no less than six fine springs rising in the village; and several others in the lordship; whose waters running down the declivities of the hills, are caught in various places, by artificial heads, which at once form ponds of water, sufficient for the cattle of the whole township. These heads having a constant supply of fresh water from the springs above, running through them, there cannot possibly be more healthful, or finer water for cattle in the world.

* A very pleasing and valuable publication.

The commons here for neat cattle are reckoned tolerably healthful; except a part, or outskirt of the field, called Chest-fallows and Woolly-pen, which is kept for young stock; and which occasions the disease of staling blood.

Authors have been at a loss to account for the cause of this disorder; but most agree that it proceeds from the acidity of some part of the food cutting the urinary passages. Perhaps it arises from the acid quality of the black-thorn shrub (*prunus spinosa*) with which this part of the field abounds; for it has been observed, that after the removal of this shrub from commonable lands, the disorder has vanished.

The lesser, or upper Avon rises near the church, from a spring called the Avon-well,

well, in the north-west quarter of the village; and after taking a westerly course, through the extensive waters and park of Sir Thomas Cave, Bart. of Stanford-hall, dividing the counties of Northampton and Leicester, and after receiving several other waters, it enters Warwickshire, flowing in a long and winding course to Stratford on Avon*, and from thence to Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire, where it falls into the Severn.

The river Nine, or Nen, rises from a spring called Chapel-well, and from another nameless one not far distant, both on the eastern declivity of the field; and almost immediately after quitting the lordship, it runs through the park and serpentine river of Sir James Langham, Bart. of Cottes-

* Famous for giving birth to the great poet Shakespear.

brook-hall; thence to Northampton, (from which place it is navigable to the sea,) by Wellingborough, Thrapston, Peterborough, &c. and after watering Whittlesea, Ugg, and Ramsey-meres, it falls into the sea at Lynn.

Some historians affirm that the river Welland rises in this field; others contend, that it rises in and about the ponds belonging to the vicarage house at Sibbertoft, whence dividing the counties, it flows on to Market Harborough, &c. I believe it is a fact, that the river Welland does rise at Sibbertoft; for I do not find that any water running out of Naseby field doth ever join that river. However this may be, one head of the river Ife, or Ifebrook, as it is called, certainly does rise here from a set of springs in the north-east quarter of the field;

32 THE HISTORY OF NASEBY.

field; after leaving which, it passes through a beautiful new-made lake fronting the seat of William Hanbury, Esq. at Kelmarsh hall, who has shewn great taste and discernment in all his improvements: this stream is also very useful and ornamental to other pieces of water at Lord Viscount Cullen's seat at Rushton, and at the park and celebrated gardens in the old stile at Boughton-house, the ancient and noble mansion of the Montague family. It afterwards joins the Nine, or Nen, near Wellingborough.

Thus NASEBY boasts of giving birth to three rivers of great public as well as private utility; flowing from the very center of the island to seas almost diametrically opposite*.

* One proof amongst others of its great elevation.

Several

Several other springs here, besides the heads of these rivers, are remarkable as to the qualities of their waters; one, the lower spring in Naseby town, called Warren's well, is of so inviting a nature, that no cattle, even strange ones, will pass by without drinking, if permitted; and when once cattle have tasted it, they greedily go to it. It seems as if its very effluvia were grateful to their smell; the water is of a blue colour, and is perhaps alluring to their eye. Mr. Morton in his natural history of the county, calls it "a blue water, such as is thought by some to be an indication of a coal-mine not far distant; because the like waters are observed where the coal-delves

are*." Coal is the fuel mostly used here, but is often scarce; seldom less than fourteen-pence per hundred weight in summer, and in winter often eighteen. It is brought in from the Oxford canal, about twelve miles by land.

But

* This is very improbable; but could a coal mine be discovered in this neighbourhood, it would be invaluable.

Coal

But he adds, "this colour to me seems to be owing to particles of the same kind with those that constitute the bluish oil, or cremor we so frequently find upon the surface of stagnant water; which having some at one time, some at another, disentangled themselves from the other ordinary vegetable particles, that they lay intermixed with, emerge, and by little and little form that oily cremor which we see floating upon the surface of standing water; and particularly that which has still a slight tincture of blue." This is Mr. Morton's account, and may be perfectly right; he seems to have been unacquainted with its

Coal is the fuel mostly used here, but is often scarce and dear: seldom less than fourteen-pence per hundred weight in summer, and in winter often eighteen. It is brought hither from the Oxford canal, about twelve miles by land carriage, and costs at the wharf about eight-pence per hundred weight.

capti-

captivating quality. Another spring in the field, called St. Dennis's well, is remarkable for the coldness of its water, and some time ago, was used as a bath by invalids troubled with the rheumatism and sciatica, and was found to have a good effect. Children also having a weakness in their limbs were brought to be dipped, when the old superstitious mode of plunging them nine mornings successively, was strictly adhered to. The water is perfectly limpid, and so cold, that, in summer, it would be dangerous to drink it; and were it kept in proper order as a bath, it would doubtless be found efficacious in disorders where cold bathing is requisite. But it is now totally neglected, and almost grown over with sedges and weeds. It is just a mile west of the village.

Scrough hill spring, so called from its

rising near the summit of the hill of that
 name, appears from the rusty, or yellow
 ochreous colour of the earth, and stones,
 that lie in the channel below the spring, to
 be a chalybeate water. Undoubtedly it has
 a petrifying quality, as a sample of a petri-
 fied piece of wood found in the rill of
 water of which this spring is the head,
 can be produced; by its grain, which is
 well preserved, it appears to be willow.
 It is equally hard, or rather more so, than
 the stony incrustation in which it is wrap-
 ped. That this was once wood, and of
 the sort above-mentioned, there is little
 doubt, tho' Mr. Morton in his natural
 history of the county says, speaking of
 specimens of this sort, "indeed they have
 some resemblance of the grain of wood,
 but we cannot conclude from thence, that
 they have formerly been wood." This
 at most belies of grain had grown hath
 grain

hath been shewn to several friends, who all have concluded, that it really was once wood.

With respect to timber, there is but little in the lordship, as is generally the case of open fields. The home closes and orchards are for the most part small, but they have some wood in their fences and hedge-rows, principally ash, which have long since wanted the ax to be applied to their roots; they are growing worfe; and in a little time the major part will be worth but little. Here are some elms, and a few oaks, which seem to thrive tolerably well: a few plants of sycamore, which grow prodigiously. The chefnut trees round the church-yard that were planted some years since, do not grow very luxuriantly. Beech has

been planted, but it is here a slow grower.

Firs thrive well.

Fruit trees at Naseby are few; nor is the soil favourable to those of the choice kinds, particularly prime sorts of apples and pears; they canker and die away as soon as their roots strike upon a cold kealy soil, which, in a few years after planting, is sure to be the case. Wall-nuts and cherries seem to do best, at least while young. Some dwarf apple trees of pretty good sorts have been planted this year in the vicarage garden, but there was encouragement to do it, from the ground having been dug, a few years ago, three spits deep, and well manured. Vines grow very well, but seldom bring their fruit to maturity. Plumbs of various sorts thrive tolerably well. Flowering shrubs of the
hardy

hardy kind have succeeded in a dry red stratum about twenty inches deep, upon a cold keal: The Spanish broom flourishes wonderfully.

As to the native plants, a botanist would find matter for a volume; but I confess myself incompetent to write much of Phytology. I am indebted to Mr. Dickson of the British Museum, one of the first botanists of the age, and who hath added upwards of three hundred plants to the *Flora Anglica*, for the following catalogue:

NAMES.

LINN.

Pinguicula vulgaris
Schænus compressus
Scripus acicularis
Nardus stricta
Alopecurus myosuroides

ENG.

Yorkshire fanicle
 Compressed hog-rush
 Least club-rush
 Mat-grass
 Field fox-tail grass

<i>Aira caryophylla</i>	Silver hair-grass
<i>Festuca decumbens</i>	Decumbent fescue grass
<i>Avena pubescens</i>	Rough oat grass
<i>Plantago medica</i>	Hairy plantain
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	Meadow sanguisorba
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	Purging Rhamnus
<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	Grass of parnassus
<i>Triglochin palustre</i>	Marsh triglochin
<i>Sedum album</i>	White stone crop
— <i>rupestre</i>	Rock stone crop
<i>Papaver argemone</i>	Rough Poppy
<i>Ranunculus hirsutus</i>	Hairy ranunculus
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Jagged cranes bill
<i>Genista humifusa</i>	Nova. ang. fl.
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney vetch
<i>Carduus eriophorus</i>	Cotton thistle
<i>Senecio aquaticus</i>	Rag-wort
— <i>crucifolius</i>	Hairy groundsel
<i>Serapias palustris</i>	Marsh hellebore
<i>Carex dioica</i>	Small carex
— <i>pulicaris</i>	Flea carex
— <i>pilulifera</i>	Round headed carex
— <i>pallens</i>	Pale carex
<i>Anthoceros punctatus</i>	Punctated anthoceros
<i>Osmunda lunaria</i>	Moon wort
<i>Blasia firsiilla</i>	Dwarf blasia
<i>Hypnum stellatum</i>	A new discovery
<i>Phascum axillare</i>	Not noted by Hudson.

* This plant was never found in England before, and was first discovered by Mr. Dickson in 1788.

The

The other plants are common in other counties, therefore it would be tedious, as well as unnecessary, to insert them.

Naseby is a delightful summer residence, presenting to the eye almost unbounded prospects. A finer landscape can scarcely be painted by art, than is here represented by nature's pencil. It is no exaggeration to say, that thirty-nine, or forty parish churches may be seen by the naked eye from one station, an old windmill bank* in Naseby field, having seen them all distinctly at different times in a clear day, as the sun's rays fell upon each.

* The mill which stood upon this bank was burned down about sixty years ago, (after having been recently repaired at a great expence) and a large quantity of wheat and flour destroyed.

Names.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Tower or Spire.</i>	<i>Distance.</i> MILES.
Thornby	T.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cold Ashby	T.	2
Welford	T. -	3
South Kilworth	S.	5
North do.	S.	3
Lutterworth	T.	10
Bitterwell	S.	11
Misterton	S.	9
Gilmorton	S.	10
Husband's Bosworth	S.	6
Thedingworth	S.	5
Sibbertoft	T.	3
Gumley	S.	9
Kibworth	S.	11
Houghton on the hill	S.	18
Carlton	T.	13*
Norton*	S.	13

* A new Church and fine Spire, built by
Forter, Esq.

Gaulby

Names.	Tower or Spire.	Distance. Miles.
Gaulby	- T. T.	14
Nofely	- T.	3
Church Langton	T. T.	12
Langton	- S.	12
Holt	- T.	14
Dingley	- T.	8
Brampton	- S.	9
Farndon	- T.	4
Oxendon	- T.	5
Delborough	- S.	9
Arthingworth	- T.	5
Harrington	- T.	6
Kelmarsh	- S.	3
Hallebeech	- T.	1 1/2
Lamport	- T.	4
Brixworth	- S.	7
Spratton	- S.	6
All Saints, Northampton	- T.	12
St. Sepulchre, do.	- S.	12

St.

Names.	Tower or Spire.	Distance.
		MILES.
St. Giles's, do.	T. T. -	12
Hanslope, Bucks,	T. S.	22
East-Haddon -	T. T.	6
Guilfordborough	- - S.	3*

I have not inserted Naseby Church in this list, as being upon the spot, for there could arise no doubt of its being seen.

From this place we have also a view of Bilfdon Coppice, in Leicestershire, a favourite fox cover of Hugo Meynell, Esq; and of the new white house of Mr. Palmer on its southern verge, which are at the distance of twenty miles: and of Holmby-house† about eight miles to the south;

* By the help of glasses several more may be found.

† Here, Cornet Joyce, at the instigation of Cromwell, was sent with a party of horse, to take King Charles I. out of

South; remarkable in history for having been the prison of King Charles I. from whence Cornet Joyce took him away.

To the north lies a rich extensive country, broken into large parts, decorated

with

of the hands of the Parliament Commissioners, and bring him away to the army. Accordingly, Joyce, about midnight, drew up his horse in order before the place, demanding entrance. Colonel Graves, and Major-general Brown, who being alarmed, had doubled the guards, enquiring his name and business, he said his name was Joyce, a Cornet in Col. Whalley's regiment, and his business was to speak with the King. Being asked from whom, he said, "from myself; my errand is to the King, I must and I will speak with him." Graves and Brown commanded their men to stand to their arms; but they, seeing them to be their fellow soldiers of the same army, opened the gates, and took hands with them, as old friends; the Cornet placed his centinels at the commissioners chamber doors, and went himself, by the back stairs, directly to the King's bed-chamber. The grooms being much surprized, desired him to lay aside his arms, and assured him, that in the morning he should speak with the King: but he, with sword and pistol, insisted to have the door opened, and made so much noise, that it waked

with all the objects and diversified with all the tints of distant landscape; retiring from the eye, scene after scene, till at length

waked his Majesty, who sent him out word, that he would not rise nor speak with him till the morning; upon which the Cornet retired in a huff. The King getting up early in the morning, sent for him, who with great boldness told his Majesty he was commanded to remove him. Whereupon the King desired the Commissioners might be called; but Joyce said, "they had nothing to do but to return back to the Parliament." Being asked for a sight of his instructions, he told his Majesty, "he should see them presently," so drawing up his troop in the inner court, "these, Sir, said he, are my instructions." The King having taken a good view of them, and finding them to be proper men, well mounted and armed, told the cornet with a smile, "his instructions were in fair characters, legible without spelling." Joyce then pressed the King to go along with him, his Majesty refused, unless the Commissioners might attend him; to which the Cornet replied, "he was very indifferent, they might go, if they would." So the King, being attended by them, went along with Joyce, and was that night conducted to Col. Montague's house at Hinchbrook, and the next to Sir John Cut's, at Childerley near Cambridge. Here Fairfax, Cromwell, Ireton, Skippon, and many other officers came to wait upon the King, and some of them kissed his hand.

Life of Cromwell in 8vo.

every

every vivid hue fading gradually away, and all distinction of parts lost, the whole imperceptibly melts into the distant horizon: except in some parts where the blue hills of Mountforrel close the view. Upon the whole, there is hardly a place in the whole country which affords a more pleasing variety than this; it is (in summer) a most enchanting spot: In short one is tempted to exclaim

'Tis beauty all, and grateful song around
Join'd to the low of kine, and numerous
bleat

Of flocks, thick nibbling thro the clover'd
vale.

THOMPSON.

Naseby is a convenient residence for a sportsman; in winter he may hunt, or shoot, and if fond of courting, cannot wish

with for a finer field, not a hedge, or a tree for more than a mile together, a few scattered thorns only and patches of gorse or furze. Here at some seasons is a plenty of hares; and sportsmen often come to try their dogs in Naseby field. There are indeed few spots, where coursing matches have afforded more amusement.

In the shooting season partridges are generally pretty plentiful; and in some winters snipes are in abundance; our springs being open, when the larger waters are frozen up. Here are wild geese and ducks, and plenty of grey and often, whistling plover. Several non-descript birds have rested at different times of the year upon the highest and most unfrequented parts of the field, especially in severe weather. The large white-headed eagle, said to be a native

native of Norway, Denmark, and Lapland, has been seen for two winters, for a short time; but so very shy as to evade all possible hazard of being shot. Several sorts of sea birds, such as the large Grebes, both black and white, Sandpipers, Curlews, &c. &c. annually rest themselves on the grassy heights, and most retired parts of the field; when they come north-east in October, in their passage to the west, and again in March, when they return in the same direction.

If one be fond of hunting, Naseby is by no means an inconvenient situation; being within reach of the fox-hounds of Althorpe* and Pitchley; and those of

Mr. The seat of the Right Honourable Earl Spencer.

Mr. Ashby, about six years ago, sowed some gorse in

Mr. Meynell often hunt in the neighbourhood.

The only objections which can be made to such a residence, are the badness of the roads in winter; and a deep heavy country; but the roads are now in an improving state, and in a few more years will be tolerably good. It may, perhaps, be expected, I should say something relative to the manufactory of the place; the only one of note carried on here is weaving harrateens, and tammys, and the spinning jersey by the women, at the long wheel, for the master weavers. Many families are employed in this work, and, when

Naseby field for a fox-cover, which is now exceedingly strong, and in which several foxes have been found. Part of this gorse has this season been cut, and sold by the tenants for $\text{£}1. 16s.$ per acre.

trade

trade is good, earn a tolerable competency; when bad, as it has long been, a great deal of work is expected to be done for little money, and the most industrious poor have been almost starved. In consequence, the poor rates have advanced very considerably within the last twenty or thirty years; from fifty to two hundred pounds per annum: the late return to parliament was about that sum*. Inclosures have been condemned for having this bad effect; but the above is a demonstrative proof they are not always the cause; they have risen here as rapidly in proportion as in inclosed Lordships, and are sure to be found high in every place where manufactories are carried on; the mechanics are too much their own masters, and few of them are

* County rates were included, but not the Constable's levy.

disposed to work the whole of their time, Monday, and sometimes Tuesday, is appropriated to pleasure, if not to scenes of riot and intemperance; the baneful effects of which are but too evident, not only from money being spent unnecessarily, but from time being lost, to the no small detriment of their families and themselves. They fulfil the scripture phrase, (but in a sense never meant) they "take no thought for the morrow;" at least it is so in too many places. Consequently when calamities of any sort overtake them, being destitute of the means of helping themselves, they apply to the parish for relief. I do not say this is the case with all; there are several sober industrious men who bring up a family with decency and propriety.

Naseby hath produced two very able and
ingenious

ingenious mechanics, and in wood and the other in iron, both natives of the place, and now living. Mr. Joshua Ringrose is exceedingly clever in compound machinery; he is now constructing a four-wheel'd carriage, a waggon, to move by steam; perhaps he had better have tried his skill on a barge, where the resistance will be nearly uniform, and the coals often on board. He is also a very able architect, a good engineer; in short, he is possessed of uncommon abilities. He is by occupation a joiner, but he as far exceeds most others of the trade, as a master of a business does an half-taught apprentice.

Mr. John Tresler is a working blacksmith, but performs with great facility every sort of work belonging to the white-smith; is very expert in the casting of

metals;

metals; a good locksmith for guns, has been long since famous for making steel cross-bows, for shooting rooks with balls; indeed there is scarcely any thing too hard for him. He is now confining himself to move by steam, and a wagon.

The price of labour for carpenters, bricklayers, masons, &c. here, is, per day of twelve hours, about one shilling and sixpence, with an allowance of ale, commonly about a pint, twice a day: for labourers one shilling, with small beer, and sometimes a meal at breakfast; the summer quarter as it is called, from Midsummer to Michaelmas, six, and sometimes seven shillings per week, with full board. A good workman is often indulged with the carriage of a ton of coals extra, worth to him about ten shillings. These wages are higher than they were twenty years ago, but

ingenious

but by no means keep pace with the advancing price of provision; at that time good wheat was bought for four shillings the bushel, now upwards of six; malt then thirty-six shillings the quarter, of eight bushels, now fifty; butcher's meat was thought high, if, upon the average for a year, it was three-pence per pound, now it is more than four-pence. Cheese was bought twenty-two years ago, at one pound six shillings per hundred, six score pounds, now, it is near two pounds, some, prime, upwards of two guineas. The value of money has been decreasing in this proportion for the last century.

Besides, the demand for servants wages is very exorbitant; ten pounds per annum are given to what is called a horse-keeper

or head man, in the farming system, such a servant used to be hired for seven or eight pounds. A good woman servant expects four pounds, who used to be content with fifty shillings. Boys and girls, except the very young, and unexperienced, are equally high in their demands. All this, it may be said, does not much affect the farmer, or grazier, as the produce of land is so much the more valuable; but to a professional man, whose dependance is upon a fixed stipend, and that small, it is a hardship exceedingly great: When every article is to be purchased, as it were by the penny, it is hardly to be conceived, by those who have not experienced it, to what a sum all of them soon amount.

Having so far given a description of the natural history, and present state of Naseby,

the Antiquities, and Ecclesiastical Records
of the place, come next to be considered.

Naseby in Domesday Book is written,
or called, Navesberie, and at the time of
the Conqueror's survey,

William Peverel held vii. hid. in Navesberie Tra
e xiii car. In anno hnt. vii. 7 viii. with cut

pbro 7 ii. sochis 7 xi. bord hnt. iii. car. Ibi
viii ac pti Valuit xx sol. Modo xx sol.*

That is, William Peverel (a natural
son of the Conqueror's) held seven hides
in Naseby. The arable land was fourteen
carucates; in demesne were two carucates,
and eight villanes, a priest, two socmen,
and eleven cottagers had three carucates§.

There were eight acres of meadow. The
whole

* Domesd. Lib.

§ According to Chambers, in Domesday Book, the
arable

whole had been valued at twenty shillings; but was then rated at fifty shillings. A great rise.

The lands which constituted the honour of Peverel escheating to the crown, these seven hides appear to have been granted to Guy de la Val,* who in the thirteenth

arable is estimated in carucates, the pasture in hides, the meadow in acres.

Windham (in his Wiltshire) conjectures that hida was intended to signify *the valuation of the estate*, and carucata, *the measurement of the land*.

Villani were the originals of our present copyholders, held their lands by doing the services of husbandry on their Lord's demesne, which afterwards was exchanged for what we now call a quit-rent. Monthly reviewers July 1790, p. 329, seem to approve this distinction.

Socmen or Sochamanni (the same as Cotarii) held by a free soccage tenure, and provided their Lord with wheat. They were a kind of free-holders, not however so as to hold their lands free from *all charge of rent or service*, but only the baser, or more servile, ones.

* Rot. Pip. anno 13. Hen. 11.

year

year of Henry the second accounted to the Exchequer twenty shillings for the lordship of Naseby. But the possessions of Guy de la Val* being claimed by Roger de Lacy, Constable of Chester, in the first year of King John, this estate, with the rest of the inheritance of the said Guy, passed into his hands. Roger de Lacy was son to John, Constable of Chester, and succeeding, in right of his Mother Albreda, to the lands of Robert de Lacy, her brother, he assumed the surname, and arms, of that family. In the fourth year of Richard the first, this Roger was at the siege of Acon in the holy land: was engaged in the battle against the Saracens, who endeavoured to relieve it, and was present at the taking of Damietta in Egypt†. In the

fifth

* Dugd. Baron. 1st vol. p. 100.

† Cart. anno 5. Joh. m. 11. p. 43.

fifth year of King John he obtained a weekly market* at Naseby upon every Tuesday. It was in the time of this Roger, that Ranulph Earl of Chester, overpowered by the Welch, shut himself in his castle of Rothelan, to which the enemy laid siege; and sending for assistance to the Constable of Chester, Roger de Laey, by means of the minstrels, who were then at Chester fair, assembled together a great multitude of people, whom he put under the conduct of Dutton his steward. The

Lacey Roger Naseby mercat. carta et libertates, anno; Joh. m. 11 Harl. ms. 744. *Records in the Tower.*

* The market cross is now standing in the middle of an area of about one acre: it consists of a base of stone work four feet square, and three high; from the center of which rises one octagonal stone, apparently, a Weldon ragg, seven feet and a half high, and near three in circumference; was formerly about a foot higher, having a round head, &c. but was decollated by mischievous boys about the year 1755.

Welch,

Cart. anno 2. Joh. m. 11. p. 43.
Deed. Baron. 18. vol. p. 100.

Welch, apprized of their approach, and supposing them all armed, raised the siege and immediately retired. For this service, John, his son and successor, received from the Earl the patronage and jurisdiction of the minstrels, which he granted to his steward Hugh de Dutton and his heirs, by the title of *Magisterium omnium* leccatorum et meretricum totius Cestreshire*. The heir of Dutton still continues to exercise this jurisdiction, at an assembly of the minstrels at Chester every midsummer fair.

§ Robert de Lacy married Maud de Clere sister to the treasurer of York cathedral, and, dying in the thirteenth year of King John, left the lordship of Naseby to John his son and heir.

* See Cowel's Interpreter, in Leccator and Minstrel.

§ Dugd. Ibid.

In the fifteenth year of this reign John de Lacy engaged to pay the King seven thousand marks, in the space of four years, for livery of the lands of his inheritance, and to be discharged of the debts due from his father to the Exchequer, obliging himself farther by oath, that if ever he should fall from his allegiance, his possessions should return to the crown. He married Margaret daughter of Robert de Quincy, and Harwife his wife, fourth sister to Ranulph, the last of that name, Earl of Chester and Lincoln; in consequence of which marriage, Henry the third, in the seventeenth year of his reign, conferred the earldom of Lincoln on him, and his heirs by the said Margaret de Quincy. In the twenty-first of Henry the third, upon the assembly of the English prelates, by ap-

pointment

pointment of Otho the Pope's legate, he was sent with other nobles in the King's name to prohibit the legate from establishing any constitution derogatory to his crown and dignity. The same year it was conditionally granted him, that if the king could not within a limited time engage the Earl of March in his service, by the marriage of Richard de Clare with a daughter of that Earl, this John de Lacy should have the marriage of the said Richard for Maud his eldest daughter. *Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, had privately contracted matrimony with Margaret, daughter to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, from whom previously to the accomplishment of his marriage with Maud de Lacy, he had had one son, in default of issue, to the said Earl and

* Dugd. *ibid.* p. 211.

See prints of the Antiquarian Society.

at the instance of the King he was divorced. By this marriage he became possessed of Naseby Lordship. In the thirtieth year of Henry the third, he, and other nobles, subscribed, and sent a letter to the pope, complaining of his oppressions, and threatening, if redress was not speedily granted, to do themselves justice. In the thirty-third of the same reign, he gained much dishonour by taking part with the foreigners against his countrymen, in the great tournament held at Brackley. * By a fine levied the same year, the Earl of Gloucester and Maud his wife conveyed the Manor of Naseby, with the advowson of the church, to William Earl of Albermarle, in marriage with Isabel his wife, and their heirs, with reversion, in default of issue, to the said Earl and

* Ped. fin. anno 33 Hen. III.

Countess of Gloucester, and their heirs*. In the third year of Edward the first, Maud de Clare, Countess of Gloucester, then a widow, saving to the Master and Scholars of Merton college, in Oxford, a claim of ten marks yearly, recovered this manor of Isabel de Fortibus, the relict of the Earl of Albermarle.

§ In the twenty-fourth year of Edward the first, died Gilbert de Clare, the son and successor of Richard Earl of Gloucester, seized of the Manor of Naseby, held in capite of the Earl of Lincoln, which he left to Gilbert, his son, by Joan of Acres, daughter to the King, a minor under five years of age. By the inquisition then

* Placit. de Banco, anno 3 Edw. I.

§ Esc. anno 24. Edw. I. n. 107.

taken, the profits arising from it were rated at fifty-nine pounds nine shillings and one penny yearly. This Gilbert Earl of Gloucester, being slain at the battle of Bannocksburne, in the seventh year of Edward the second*, his inheritance, for want of male issue, descended to his three sisters and co-heirs, Alianore wife of Hugh le Despenser the younger, Margaret of Piers de Gaveston, afterwards married to Hugh de Audley, and Elizabeth the wife of John de Burgh, and partition being made between them, this Lordship was assigned to Margaret his second sister. At this time it was in the hands of John Giffard, as under tenant §, who, in the ninth year of age. By the induction then

* Dugd. Baron. 1 vol. p. 217.

§ Nom. Vill.

year of Edward the second, was certified to be Lord of Naseby.

* In the third year of Edward the third Hugh de Audley, with Margaret his wife, were required by a writ of quo warranto to prove their pretensions to view of frankpledge, infangenthef, weyf and stray, with other privileges, in their Manor of Naseby, which they claimed, as descending to them from Gilbert de Clare, formerly Earl of Gloucester. † In the seventeenth

of the same reign, this manor, by a fine levied between John de Gynewell, canon

Rot. de quo warranto anno 3 Edw. III. n. 39.

† Etc. anno 21 Edw. III. n. 39.

§ A part of the village, with a spring, still retains the name of Gynewell, probably from the name of this gentleman.

of Sarum, and Robert de Sadesbury, demandants, and Hugh Earl of Gloucester, Ralph Lord Stafford, and Margaret his wife, daughter to the said Earl of Gloucester, deforciant, was settled on the said Hugh for his life time, with remainder to Ralph, son of Ralph Lord Stafford, and Maud his wife, with reversion, for want of heirs, to the said Ralph and Margaret, and their right heirs. He died in the twenty-first year of this reign.

§ Ralph, son to Ralph Lord Stafford, dying without issue, in his father's life time, upon the decease of Maud his relict, who held this manor in virtue of the settlement above mentioned, in the thirty-sixth year of Edward the third, the

§ Esc. anno 36 Edw. III. p. 1. 37.

Lordship

Lordship of Naseby reverted to the Lord Stafford, who left it at his death, in the forty-sixth year of the same reign, to Hugh, his second son. By this Hugh it was settled upon Hugh Stafford, Lord Bouchier, his younger son, who held it for the term of his life †, and, upon whose death, in the ninth year of Henry the fifth, it devolved to Humphrey Earl of Stafford, son to Edmund Earl of Stafford, his elder brother, afterwards created Duke of Buckingham, and slain at the battle of Northampton, fighting valiantly on the part of King Henry the sixth, in the thirty-eighth year of his reign §. By the inquisition taken upon his death, this manor, pursuant

* Esc. anno 46 Edw. III. n. 62.

† Dugd. Baron. i vol. p. 174.

§ Esc. anno 38 & 39 Hen. VI. n. 59.

to a settlement made in his life time, came to John his younger son, and Constance his wife, daughter to Henry Greene, of Drayton, Esq; and their heirs. In the ninth year of Edward the fourth, this John Stafford was created Earl of Wiltshire, and in the twelfth of the same reign, appointed a Commissioner, with the Earl of Northumberland, and others, to treat with the Ambassadors of the King of Scots for the redress of certain grievances respecting both kingdoms. By Constance, his lady, he had issue Edward, an only son, who, on his father's decease, in the thirteenth year of this reign, succeeded to this Lordship, being then a minor three years of age. Edward, Earl of Wiltshire, hav-

§ Dugd. Baron. 1 vol. p. 174.

* Esc. anno 13 Edw. IV. n. 13.

ing no issue, the Manor of Naseby, at his death, in the fourteenth year of Henry the seventh, reverted to Edward, Duke of Buckingham, grandson to Humphrey, Lord Stafford, (killed at the battle of St. Alban's, in the thirty-third of Henry the sixth) his father's brother. This nobleman, being afterwards attainted of high treason, and beheaded upon Tower-hill, in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, his lands* were confiscated, and the Manor of Naseby given, the same year, to Sir William Fitts-William, Knight. This Manor §, with about two thirds of the Lordship, afterwards came into the

Edw. anno 13 Hen. VIII. a. 1577. p. 2. & pat. Anno 13 Hen. VIII.

* A manor colist has not been held for many years, because, as I have been informed, there are no tenants to it.

possession of Sir John Wolfenholm, who conveyed it to Charles Joye, Esq; (about the year 1720, commonly called the South-sea year, when the landed property of these kingdoms went through a wonderful change of hands, to the great advantage of the purchasers) who pulled down the old Manor house, and built a modern one of stone upon its site. The present possessor is Sir Isaac Pocock, (knighted, when High Sheriff, in 1786, on delivering the address of the county of Northampton) in right of his lady, the relict of the late Peter Joye, Esq; of Bennesfield, in this county.

The other third part of this Lordship was long in the possession of the Shuck-brugh family, who flourished here for several generations; of whom, Mary, the
4
sole

sole heiress of Eusebius Shuckbrugh and Mary his wife, was baptized the 27th day of January 1628, and in 1647 intermarried with George Ashby of Quenby Hall, in the county of Leicester, Esq; and by him had three sons, and three daughters; she secondly married to Colonel Hewet, by whom she had no issue, and lived at Rotherby, in the said county, where she died April 13th 1721, aged 93. On her demise, her eldest son, George, who had the honour of being twice chosen to represent the County in Parliament, without any expence to himself or family, became possessed of her estates in Naseby; and from him, Mr. Ashby, the present owner of them, is descended.

The venerable old, but sombrous, seat of the Shuckbrughs, was pulled down in

1773, by Mr. Ashby, who has built with the materials a very convenient farm house, and offices; many ancient coins were found in the foundations, and walls; the timber, of the most substantial oak, evidently felled with the bark on in the winter, had bid defiance even to time; as the like may be seen in the roof of King's college chapel, in Cambridge. Nothing now remains worth notice upon the premises, where this ancient edifice stood, but a large oak table, preserved with great care, of which an antiquary informed me, that about twenty years ago, in examining the curiosities at Naseby, he had the following traditional account from two old gentlewomen, the tenants. A party of the King's life guards* were surprised by Ireton,

* Life guards being almost appropriated to Sovereigns only,

Ireton, as they were sitting down to supper at this very table, the evening before the battle. Yes, Sir, at this very table!" Striking the board.

A fine spring of limpid soft water constantly flows through a stone reservoir in the cellar.

It may, perhaps, be thought by some, an unwarrantable omission in not having given, as is generally customary in works of this kind, the present annual value of the lordship; and the sum paid as land-tax, &c. but when it is considered the whole is the property of two gentlemen only, the reason is obvious; even had there been several proprietors, one might have hesitated:

only, the mistake was easy, of the King's for the Prince's, as was the case.

but

but it must be added, that the tenants have no reason to complain of the severity of their land-lords.

The sole proprietors of these large bounds* are Sir Isaac Pocock, Knight, George Ashby, Esq; and the Rev. John Mastin as vicar. That part of Naseby called the Grange, mentioned by Bridges, is the property of Mr. Ashby; the house stood in a close called *now*, the Green close.

The following ænigmatical anecdote was told me when I first came to Naseby, by Charles Wilford, master of the Bell public house. “Some years ago, on a Shrove-

* It is remarkable that the whole should be known land: a singular circumstance, in open fields where there is so much pasture.

Tuesday,

Tuesday, two women of the village had a violent dispute in the church-yard; from words, they proceeded to blows, and fought most furiously; when a man, who was shot at the battle of Naseby, came out of a grave and parted them."

The fact was, one Humphrey Thompson, a parishioner of Naseby, a quartermaster, valiantly fighting for his royal master in this field, was wounded, but not mortally: he, after quitting the army, was made parish-clerk and sexton, and was digging a grave when the above-mentioned quarrel happened. A portrait of this warrior, (but in bad preservation) is now in the possession of a Mrs. Henson, of this place.

Trinity Monday is observed here as a festival,

festival, the inhabitants inviting their friends, and making merry; the young people assemble, and spend the afternoon and evening, with ringing of bells, dancing, &c. It is called, here, Rothwell fair Monday; this custom probably arose from a large fair at that place, 'tho eight or nine miles distant.

A most benevolent institution, called the Amicable Society, consisting of inferior tradesmen and cottagers, has of late years been established in this parish; by a weekly deposit, made by each member, a fund is raised, to support such of their brethren and families, as by sickness, or other misfortunes, may be rendered incapable of providing for themselves. The management of the whole is by two stewards, chosen annually,

annually, by the majority of their own members, the number of which, this year, is forty-two: the good effects of this establishment are visible to all*. The audit (except when it falls on a Sunday) is, at the particular desire of a great promoter of this charity, annually to be held on Christmas-day, after attending the duties of the church, and hearing a sermon preached upon the occasion. By this regulation, I have the happiness to perceive, that many Sectaries are coming over to the church,

The Church of Naseby is dedicated to All-Saints, but no record is left of the time when it was built, or who was its founder: the materials, as to stone, are

* See a short good pamphlet on this interesting subject, by Mr. Few, at the time of publishing, of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.

from

from the quarries of Weldon, Haslebeech, and Harlstone. It consists of a body, two isles, and chancel, with a porch on the south side, leaded. At the west end is an embattled tower, in which are five fine maiden bells, having never been chipt, or wrought upon with a chisel, from their first casting.

The tenor, eighteen hundred weight, hangs considerably above the others, the tower being too small to contain them all in the same frame-work.

Upon the bells are the following inscriptions.

1st Bell, or Treble.

Round the Skirt, GOD SAVE THE KING.

On

from

On a kind of medal one inch and half diameter, this inscription round the King's arms, AUSPICE REGNO.

On two others of the same size round King Charles on horseback, CAROLUS D. G. MAG. BRITAN. FRAN. ET HIB. REX. 1633.

2d Bell.

I. HODS NAZARENUS REX JUDEORUM. 1640.

3d Bell.

Same inscription. 1633.

4th Bell.

CUM SONO, SI NON VIS VENIRE, NUNQUAM AD PRECES CUPIES IRE. 1633.

On a kind of bell, or Tenor Bell.

meter, this inscription round the King's

In old Saxon Characters, STATU TUM
EST OMNIBUS SEMEL MORI. 1633.

On two others of the same size round

Upon the tower is a little more than
half a pyramidal spire covered with lead,
and a notion did prevail that it was de-
collated at the time of the battle; but
upon examination, dates were discovered
upon this lead prior to 1645, a proof that
this was not the case. Mr. Ashby some
years ago, at a considerable expence,
caused an addition to be made to the spire,
of woodwork, consisting of a king-post
and four supporters, rising to the height
of 15 feet above the stone work; at the
top of which, is a large hollow copper
ball capable of containing, according to
the account of the person who performed
the

the work, sixty gallons, ale measure; *
above this ball is some ornamental iron-
work and a large weather-vane, from the
top of which to the ground is 103 feet.

With a good glass, from the top of the
spire, may be seen Boston Deeps, or an
arm of the sea in Lincolnshire, distance
above sixty miles, nearly N. E. when the
air is free from vapours, and the sun in a
proper direction: the most favourable time
is about 3 o'clock P. M.

It is well worth the notice of an antiquarian, that this
copper ball (together with a fine toned bell) was brought
by Sir Giles Allington from Boulogne, when that place
was taken by the English, in the reign of King Henry the
Eighth, Anno. Dom. 1544. and was placed upon the
cupola of his house at Horseheath in Cambridgeshire, which
he built; and was sold, amongst the rest of the materials,
when that once noble seat was dismantled. Mr. Ashby paid
only for its weight, as old copper, altho' the metal was as
perfectly free from decay as when first manufactured; proba-
bly owing to the coats of gilding and painting.

* The tower, furnished with a clock (which strikes the hours upon the tenor bell, and may be heard at a considerable distance, but which has no dial-plate) is 18 feet 6 inches long, and 15 feet 6 inches in breadth, and is thought by all architects, who have noticed it, not to be competent to bear a compleat spire of stone.

The nave of the church is 55 feet 6 inches long, and 21 feet 10 inches broad. The north ile is in breadth 10 feet 9 inches. South ile 7 feet 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The breadth of the whole 40 feet 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The height 34 feet 6 inches within, and the nave rises above the ile 15 feet. There are evident marks of a rood loft still remaining, a pillar having been cut away to admit the staircase.

The

The seating of the church is regular, and in the old fashion, at right angles from north to south, except three pews at the east end belonging to the mansion-houses of the present proprietors. The seat belonging to the Vicarage, is the first or south end of the front seats in the north-west compartment.

The pulpit hath the appearance of great antiquity; is an octagon, small in the inside, and almost covered on the outside with a kind of carved fret-work; and there still remains fixed to it the iron frame, on which the hour-glass used to rest.

The font is of stone, and very large; its exterior diameter being 30 inches, interior 22 inches, depth 13, and circumference 91 inches; consequently very old, for it is observed that fonts, originally in-

tended for the total immersion of the infant, are antient, in proportion as they are capacious*. The excavated basin is lined with lead, and hath a hole in the bottom to admit the water into the ground. In the south ile is a receptacle for holy water §.

The chancel is in length 29 feet 3 inches; breadth 18 feet 8 inches, and 25 feet high; it is furnished with a neat plain communion table, of oak, and rails corresponding. The communion plate consists of a cup, or chalice, and paten, purchased with a donation of ten pounds. On the cup is this inscription. THE GIFT OF MRS. DOROTHY ASHBY LATE OF

* Warton's Kiddington, p. 5.

† Blomefield's Norfolk, i. p.

QUEENBY IN THE COUNTY OF LEICESTER. DEO ET ALTARIB, ANNO DOM. 1681.

There are two receptacles for holy water, one in the south wall, and the other in the north, within the communion rails. The chancel is kept in repair by the improprator, who hath two large pews in it for the use of his tenants.

The patronage of this church, which originally was in the Lords of the Manor, was given in the 8th of Henry VI. to Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire, to which it was soon after appropriated, and a vicarage ordained*.

* Coombe Abbacia in Com. Warr. pro Ecclesia de Navesby in Com. North. approprianda per H. 6. A. 8.

Harl. MS. 741. Records in the tower vol. 195.

The following remembrance of evidence shews by whom it was given to Coombe Abbey, which was not before known; and for which, I am obliged to my good friend, the Rev. Mr. Ayscough, of the British Museum.

Naseby	}	A remembrance of evi-
Lincoln		dences sent up by injunc-
Dioc. Approp.		tion of the King's visi-
		tation.

Item, sent up five pieces of evidence for the appropriation thereof; first the donation of Humphry Earl Stafford; the second a deed of William Peyto and others; the third a letter of Attorney of the same; the fourth a deed of Relapse of William Peyto and others; the fifth a deed of Humphry Earl Stafford, with a release in the same.

Item,

Item, the Lycence and Confirmation of King Henry 6th for the said appropriation.

Item, the grant and appropriation of the Bishop of Lincoln and the Chapter and the Bp of Roome's Bull for the rectifying and confirming of the same*.

§ In 1435 it was a second time ordained, and a third time in 1467, by John Chedworth Bishop of Lincoln, consisting of a stipend of twelve marks yearly paid by the Convent, with an hall, chamber, kitchen, court-yard, and garden, as a dwelling for the Vicar. All the other profits, with the glebe and manse, were assigned to the Convent.

* Cotton MS. Vitellius A. 1. Register of Coombe Abbey.

§ Reg. Lin.

In

*In 1254, 38th Henry III. the church of Naseby was rated at twenty-four marks. In 1535, 26th of Henry VIII. at the valuation taken of all dignities, benefices, and all other ecclesiastical preferments throughout the kingdom, according to the best accounts that could be procured of the then present and improved value of each, the Vicarage without any deductions was returned into the Exchequer at eight pounds yearly value; for which sum it continued to pay first fruits and tenths till the first of Eliz. Anno Dom. 1558, when all vicarages throughout the kingdom, not exceeding the yearly value of ten pounds, and all parsonages, not exceeding ten marks according to the above valuation, were by act of Parliament exempted from the pay-

* MS. Cott. Nero DX.

In

ments

ments of first fruits only, not of tenths; Naseby of course was discharged of first fruits, but it continued to pay tenths till the 5th of Queen Anne, 1707. When all livings under the then yearly value of £.50 per annum were discharged from the payment of both first fruits and tenths for ever.

In 1720, the vicarage was augmented with two hundred pounds of Queen Anne's Naseby being under that value, was discharged, and so continues.

It pays two shillings and sixpence for procurations at every Bishop's visitation.

§ In the 6th year of Edward VI. the rectory and advowson of the vicarage were given to Mary Duchess of Richmond, from whom it came into the Shuckbrugh

§ Pat. anno 6 Edw. VI. p. 9.

family,

family, Edward Shuckburgh, Esq; having the right of presentation in 1640*.

Mrs. Hewitt, of Rotherby, while she held Naseby, was pleased to add 12l. yearly to the vicar's stipend.

In 1720, the vicarage was augmented with two hundred pounds of Queen Ann's bounty by lot; and (it is said by Bridges) with two hundred pounds by the benefaction of Mrs. Ann and Mary Millington, and Dr. Friend; however this may be, certain it is, that no benefit ever accrued to the vicarage from it. Perhaps the statute of mortmain interfered, which might

* The original grant from Mary Duchess of Richmond to John Shuckburgh, Esq; is now in the possession of Mr. Alhby, signed and sealed with her own hand.

be

be the reason why this benevolent design never took effect.

In 1772, it was again augmented with two hundred pounds of Queen Ann's bounty by lot.

In 1783, Mr. Ashby was pleased to augment the vicarage with twelve guineas yearly, and also to confirm the former stipend of twenty pounds paid to the vicar; by deed bearing date the 19th of August, in the same year. He also rebuilt the vicarage house in 1785. It consists of a vestibule, two good parlours, with chambers, attics, and suitable offices. The edifice is of brick, covered with blue slate; the roof, staircase, and parlour floors, of oak, all substantial and convenient. In consequence of Mr. Ashby's addition, the

Governors

Governors of Queen Ann's bounty added four hundred pounds more, in all eight hundred pounds, with which lands have been purchased in the lordship of Long Buckby, in this county. It is in the deanery of Haddon.

<i>Patroni.</i>	<i>Incumb. et temp. Instituti.</i>
J. de Lacy, Con- stab. Cestr.	Galf. de Northampton, subd. 1228. Eccl. de Navesby, 1228.
Isab. de Fortibus	Petr. de Quatremans, subd. 1232. Tho. de Montealto.
Comites marl.	Tho. Makerel, subd. 1262. Mag. Will. de Thirington, cap. 12 cal. Jun. 1286.
Rad. de Monther- mer Com. Glouc.	John de Burges, cap. 18 cal. Maii, 1305.
Dom. Adam de Everyngham de Rokele Mil. Ma- tild. quond. uxor Rad. Stafford.	Dom. Joh. Merlawe. Simon de Anderby, Pbr. 17 cal. Sept. 1341. * Nic. de Croxale, Pbr. 3 Id. Jul. 1349.
	* Reg. Joh. Gynwell, Ep. Linc.
	* Dom.

THE HISTORY OF NASEBY. 99

Patroni. Incumb. et temp. Inſtitu.

* Dom. Matth. de Torkeſſe, 18 cal.
Aug. 1361.

† Petr. de Gildeburgh

Steph. Haukyn de Naveſby, Pbr. 7
Id. Jul. 1363.

Petr. de Gildeſburg. Theſ. Landay,
16 Maii 1366.

The. Kymbell, Pbr. 25 Apr. 1370.

Dom. Nic. Stafford, Nic. Bubbewyth, Pbr. 25 Feb.
Mil. et alii 1391.

Rob. de Felton, Cl. 12 Feb. 1393.

§ Edm. Exon Episc. § Joh. Kyngton, cap. 18 Maii
et alii. 1401.

Rob. Claydon, cap. 26 Jun. 1403.

† Dom. Edm. Staf. † Dom. Joh. Byſſhopeſtre, Pbr. 22
ford, Episc. Exon. Mart. 1407.

Nic. Bubbewyth, Dom. Will. Modynet.

Episc. Sarum, et
alii.

* Reg. Joh. Gynwell, Ep. Linc.

† Reg. Joh. Buckingham, Ep. Linc.

§ Reg. Hen. Beaufort, Ep. Linc.

† Reg. Phil. Repingdon, Ep. Linc.

Abb.

Patroni. Incumb. et temp. Instituti.

† Abb. et Conv. de Joh. Fysher cap. 10 Mart. 1433.

Comba. ad Vicar de Navesby. dotat. penult.

Feb. 1433.

* Rich. Coventre Pbr. Mon. de Comba

19 Nov. 1449.

† Frat. Hen. Upton, Cl. 17 Feb.

1450.

Rob. Proter, cap. 18 Dec. 1451.

§ Dom. Tho. Wydowe, Pbr. 6 Sept.

1455.

Rob. Hulle, Mon. de Comba, 10

Maii 1462.

Frat. Hen. Upton, 7 Maii 1463.

Dom. Rob. Hulle, 19 Mart. 1464.

Dom. Will. Whytryngton, Mon. de

Comba, 6 Aug. 1466.

* Dom. Joh. de Ly.

† Reg. Will. Gray, Ep. Linc.

* Reg. Will. Alnwick, Ep. Linc.

† Reg. Marmad. Lumley, Ep. Linc.

§ Reg. Joh. Chedworth, Ep. Linc.

* Reg. Joh. Ruffel, Ep. Linc.

Dom.

Patroni. Incumb. et temp. Institu.

Dom. Tho. Wyllson, Mon. de Comba,

3 Sept. 1487.

Frat. Joh. Alcetyr, 21 Jul. 1498.

Dom. Tho. Walsdale, Cap. 6 Mart.

1510.

Joh. Mathewe

Gen. rat. concess. Dom. Tho. Adams, Cl. 15 Feb.

per. Conv. de 1538.

Comba.

Patroness, Mary

Duchess of Rich-

mond, 1553.

The first Vicar mentioned in the Parish Register, which begins 24th July, 1568, in the fourth year of Queen Elizabeth, is Richard Cox, as appears by the Register being kept by him, and written with his own hand. He died in May 1611, and was buried at Naseby, without any memorial. He was, according to the above-mentioned

mentioned account, Vicar 48 years: perhaps he only transcribed, or signed: instances however of longer incumbencies are not rare. His successor in the vicarage was Edward Wright, who likewise resided, his name being written with his own hand, at the bottom of every page of the Register for nineteen years, viz. till 1630: but whether he died at Naseby is doubtful, as there is no account of his burial.

He was succeeded by Thomas Perkins, who continued Vicar till the year 1640, when he was succeeded by John Sturnam, who was, as appears by a memorandum on the cover of the Register, inducted into the vicarage of Naseby, viz. Johannes Sturnam de Navesby institutus doctus fuit decimo die Junii per Mr. Henricum Gantther vicarium de Welford 1640. This writing is nearly obliterated.

In

In Mr. Sturnam's time there was an act of Parliament for appointing a Register in every Parish, as appears by what follows;---William Green of Naseby in the county of Northampton, was, according to the act of Parliament in that case made, elected, and chosen, by the major part of the parish, to be Register there, who, according to the said act, took his corporal oath for his true performing the said office this 9th day of November 1653.

Edward Haunmar.

Mr. Sturnam was twenty-four years vicar of Naseby, and was succeeded in 1664 by Richard Adrian, who was inducted 11th of July in the same year into the vicarage. In the year 1684, Thomas Chapman occurs vicar of Naseby, but

whether he was the immediate successor to Mr. Adrian is not certain, as the register for two or three years was badly kept, but probably he was.

He was succeeded by the Rev. George Bagley, who married, June 23d, 1695, Mrs. Ann Bayley of Naseby. He resided upon his vicarage, as appears by entries made in the register of births, and burials, of some of his children.

Mr. Samuel Bold was next instituted to the vicarage, and was resident near forty years; he died December 20th, 1751, and was buried in the chancel, where there is a monument to his memory.

His successor was Mr. Carter, who held the vicarage till the year 1767, when the

Rev.

Rev. George Beet was instituted April 29th in that year.

The Rev. John Mastin was instituted May 5th, 1783.

The wages paid to the parish clerk and sexton, are six-pence every house annually; and two shillings a year for whipping dogs out of the church. The fee for weddings one shilling; for a funeral two shillings.

DONATIONS TO THE POOR.

Samuel Harris, some time clerk of the parish, gave six pounds: the interest to be given away annually in bread.

Thomas Wright of this parish, by will gave five pounds: the interest to be distributed in bread annually.

Both these sums are in the hands of the parish officers, who regularly distribute the interest, in bread, at Christmas.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

in the CHURCH and CHANCEL.

Upon an oblong grave-stone in the middle of the north ile, are the figures of a man and woman in brass, and under their feet a brass plate with this inscription:

Hic jacent Johes Oliver Junior qui quidam Johannes obiit vicesimo quarto die mensis Augusti anno dñi Milmo CCCO. MDI. et Agnes uxor ejus que obiit die mensis ... anno dñi Milmo CCCO. quorum animabus propicietur Deus Amen.

At the east end of this ile, on a free-stone altar monument, covered with com-

mon marble, is the following inscription
on a brass plate set in the wall of the

Here lyeth John Shuckburgh of Rades-
bee Cent. departed this life in the faith of
Jesus Christ the XXII of September 1576
leaving unto the tuition of the Almightye
Joane his wyffe by whom he had IIII sonnes
viz. Jasper, John, and Edward, and IIII
daughters viz. Elizabeth, Anne, Anne,
Francis, Abys, Elizabeth, Francis,
Marpe, Dornthye, Judeth, Margratt,
Mamed, and Jane.

At each corner of the top and bottom
were shields of arms, of which only the
following remains at the left hand lower
corner: on a cheveron three cinquefoils, and
on a canton ermine a fleur de lis, quarter-
ing, 1. frette, 2. three owls, 3. As the
first,

first, Shuckbrugh. Crest, out of a Ducal coronet, an Elephant's head: also a shield with a cross, in bend, a Christmas.

Near to the above on the floor is a large black antique marble slab, on which were two busts in brass supported by pedestals, and an inscription in brass round the verge, all which are now gone. The loss of this inscription is to be regretted, as, from appearance, the tomb is very ancient. It probably belongs to some of the Shuckbrugh family. In the Chancel upon a large freestone near the south door is this inscription, in capitals:

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF EDWARD SHUCKBRUGH OF NAVESBY ESQ; RENOWNED FOR THE ANTIQUITY OF HIS FAMILIE WHICH HATH FLOURISHED THERE IN A PERPETUAL DESCENT FOR MANY YEARS WHO HAD TWO WIVES: BY HIS FIRST WIFE MARY HE HAD THREE SONS
EUSEBIE,

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EUSEBIE, EDWARD, AND JOHN, AND FOURE
DAUGHTERS ELIZABETH, KNIGHTLEY, ANNE,
AND SARAH: AND BY HIS SECOND WIFE DO-
ROTHY ONE SONNE HENRY AND ONE DAUGH-
TER DOROTHY, AND DEPARTED THE 25th OF
APRIL 1658. BEING AGED 86 AND ABOVE, AND
REST HERE TILL HE RISE TO IMMORTALITIE.

On a Swithland slate* stone, within the
altar rails:

Here lieth the body of Mr. Samuel
Bold, late vicar of this Parish, who de-
parted this life December 15th, 1751.
Aged 79.

* For these slates see Mr. Nichols's History of Lei-
cestershire.

In

In the church-yard* are the following epitaphs, which are inserted to shew the longevity of the inhabitants.

Upon a grave-stone near the porch door:

In memory of George Cowdall sen. who departed this life June 29th, ann. dom. 1727, in the 70th year of his age.

Upon another very near the above:

In memory of Elizabeth the wife of George Cowdall, who died the 16th of December, 1744, aged 70.

It is said, that Cuthbert, Archbishop of Canterbury, obtained royal and perfect leave to inclose a piece of ground, adjoining churches, to bury the dead, called, now, church-yards.

Throsby's Memoirs.

Upon

Upon a tomb-stone, near the chancel-wall,
on the south side.

In memory of Richard Herbert, husband of Sarah Herbert, he died April 15th, 1773, aged 88 years.

Here also lieth the body of Sarah Herbert, relict of Richard Herbert, who departed this life January 2d, 1781, aged 84 years.

Upon a Swithsland slate near the tower:

In memory of Edward Perkins, serjeant in the 23d regiment of the royal Welch Fusileers at Minorca, when taken, and five battles in Germany, who, being worn out with 16 years service, departed this life May 9th, 1767, in the 40th year of his age.

age. Bravely didst thou serve thy king
and country.

In memory of Alice Watts, who de-
parted this life May 8th, 1769, in the
89th year of her age.

In memory of Mary, the wife of Wil-
liam Laundon; she departed this life June
25th, 1758, in the 70th year of her age.

In memory of William Laundon, who
departed this life October 17th, 1765,
aged 76.

In memory of William Haddon, he de-
parted this life October 28th, in the 72d
year of his age.

In memory of Samuel Lade, who de-
ceased

ceased the 10th day of August, 1742, in the 75th year of his age.

In memory of Hannah Bailey, who departed this life October 13th, 1788, in the 85th year of her age.

In memory of Lydia Bailey, who departed this life November 12th, 1787, in the 85th year of her age.

In memory of Thomas Bailey, who departed this life, the 12th day of May, 1752, in the 89th year of his age.

In memory of John Gill, who departed this life the 23d day of February, 1765, in the 79th year of his age.

George Elliot, departed this life Sept. 21st

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21st, 1739, in the 84th year of his age.

Grace Elliot, deceased June 29th, 1745, in the 74th year of her age.

William Everard, departed this life January 31st, 1771, aged 79 years.

John Cook, died March 26th, 1756, aged 92 years.

Alice Cook, departed this life April 8th, 1766, in the 91st year of her age.

William Bosworth, husband of Sarah Bosworth, departed this life July 14th, 1725, aged 75.

William Falkner, died December 27th, 1760, in the 88th year of his age.

Elizabeth,

Elizabeth, the wife of William Falkner, departed this life March 8th, 1766, aged 77 years.

Ann Henson, wife of Robert Henson, departed this life August 3th, 1772, in the 74th year of her age.

Avice Henson, departed this life February 4th, 1754, in the 88th year of her age.

Robert Henson, departed this life Sept. 14th, 1742, in the 81st year of his age.

Robert Henson, died April 9th, 1775, aged 76 years.

Upon a neat tomb of Harlstone stone, are the following inscriptions:

In

In memory of George Cowdall, gent. the husband of Jane Cowdall; he departed this life November 11th, 1771, aged 61 years.

In memory of Jane Cowdall, wife of George Cowdall, she departed this life July 15th, 1773, aged 55 years.

In the parish, are the following persons now living.

William Corby, aged 86 years. Jonathan Warren, 76. George Wright, 79. William Irefon, 77. John Cook, 80. William Burdett, 70. William Perkins, 70. Thomas Warren, 75. John Trefslers, 74. Hannah Trefslers, 73. Ann Henson, 73. Ann Wheatley, 72. Elizabeth

beth Moody, 69. Sarah King, 70. Mary
Wilford, 73. Hannah Garret, 72.

The following persons, probably, were
natives of Naseby.

* Amicia, de Navesby, was appointed
prioress of the priory of Nuns at Roth-
well, in 1312.

Quere, did she not institute the festival
at Naseby, on Rothwell fair Monday?
See p. 78.

† John de Navesby, and John Machon
Capellan, were patrons of the Church of
Lilford, in 1399.

* Reg. Joh. Dalderby, Ep. Linc.

† Reg. Hen. Bringham, Ep. Linc.

* Henry

* Henry de Navesby was minister of the church of Daventry, about the beginning of the 13th century.

† William de Navesby, was instituted to the living of Kilsby, 5 cal. Dec. 1377.

The wake is kept on the Sunday after All Saints.

Before I quit this subject, I wish to pay that tribute of praise, justly due to the parishioners, for the strict attention they have lately paid to the repairing, and beautifying the church; they having expended considerable sums for that laudable purpose; and are now adding, as a further improve-

* Reg. Rich. Gravesend, Ep. Linc.

† Reg. John Buckingham, Ep. Linc.

ment,

ment, a very large piece of painting, done by an ingenious artist, Mr. Taylor, of Birmingham; it is intended to fill the upper part of a large elliptical arch between the church and chancel. It consists of a full-length figure of Moses, in the proper habiliments, holding the decalogue, in two tables, with his left hand, and the rod in the other. A like figure of Aaron, in the full habit of ancient priesthood, holding the censer, &c. Above, in the center, is represented the all-seeing eye, from which dart gilded rays of refulgent glory: below which, as if in the clouds, is a group of Cherubs, expressive of consummate happiness. On one side, in an oval, is written, the Lord's prayer; on the other, the Apostles creed.

Against the north side of the nave, in a

gilt frame, are the British Arms, by the same artist, neatly executed. The whole, as pieces of church painting, seem to have great merit.

Let God in all things be glorified, and his name magnified and exalted, for all his marvellous works.

I proceed to give as full and substantial an account, as I possibly could collect, of one of the most important events that ever happened in this nation; the consequence of which was a total change of government in these kingdoms; and, from its effects on the royal cause, is commonly called the fatal battle of Naseby.

June 14th, 1645, was fought in this field, a decisive battle, between the royalists and

and parliamentarians; which determined the fate of these kingdoms, and in the sequel, cost the King (Charles I.) his life. Very little tradition of it is left in the village, nor does the register of the parish make mention of it; an omission utterly inexcusable in a resident clergyman. Indeed, an old man, now living, one Warren, remembers very well to have been told by his grandfather, that he was then a strong boy, about nine or ten years old, and was keeping cows in the field during the whole time of the battle; that he was present at the burial of the dead, which was done by the country people coming in from all quarters; some were stripped, others buried in their cloaths: but in general so shallow, that the bodies, in a short time, became very offensive, that matter issued from the graves and ran several yards

to 1 3 upon

upon the ground, which, having subsided, the cattle ate those spots, for several years, remarkably bare. The graves are still very visible, but are become concave, and water stands in them in the winter season. This is all that is now known in the village.

The following account of this remarkable battle is extracted from a rare book called *Anglia Rediviva*, England's Recovery, published in 1647, by Joshua Sprigge, M. A. chaplain to Gen. Fairfax, and who was in the battle.

The army (Fairfax's) being come to Wotton, from Stony Stratford, they found there none of the best accommodation for quarters; only what was wanting that way, was kindly and respectfully endeavoured to be supplied by the mayor and magistrates

of Northampton; who, the same night, came to the General, at the head quarters, upon the errand of a congratulatory visit, and present. The next day, the army marched to Guilborough, (four miles on the west of Northampton, and within five miles of Borough hill, where the enemy still continued) marching in very good order, for that they did advance directly upon the place, where the enemy had pitched himself. A commanded party of horse gave the enemy an alarm, and took some prisoners, by whom they understood the king was a hunting; the soldiers in no good order, and their horses all at grass, having not the least knowledge of our advance, and being in the greatest security that could be; but the alarm was so quickly taken, that they threw all their quarters, that our foot being

1 4

not

General

being somewhat behind, and night approaching, it was not thought wisdom to make any further attempt. About twelve that night, the General took horse, and rode about both the horse and foot guards, till four in the morning, (expecting the enemy would have shewn some gallantry that night, and fallen upon some of his quarters, as he had hindered them in their sport at hunting the day before.) In the very entrance whereof this hard condition befell the General himself, that having forgot the word, he was stopped at the first guard, and requiring the soldier that stood sentinell to give it him, he refused to do it, telling him, he was to demand the word from all that past him, but to give it to none; and so made the General stand in the wet, till he sent for the captain of the guard to receive his commission to give the

General

General the word; (in such subjection are the highest, to those laws, that rest their sanction and authority in great part from themselves) and in the end the soldier was rewarded for his duty and carefulness, (as it was interpreted.) As the General was riding in the morning about three of the clock, within a mile and a half of Floore, where the enemy kept an horse guard; he could discern the enemy riding fast over Borough hill, to make fires in abundance, as if they were firing their huts; which gave some cause to believe they were about to march, as indeed it proved afterwards. For about five in the morning, June 13th, the General returned to head quarter; the Scout-master, Gen. Watson, (whose continued diligence, in getting timely intelligence of the enemies motions, then, and always, redounded

not

not a little to the enablement of the army) brought him certain notice, that the enemy was drawing off from Borough hill; had stood in arms all night, and were all amazed, that our army was so near, it being spread abroad in their army we were gone for security into the association; and four or five more of the spies came one after another, confirming the same intelligence, adding further, that most of their carriages were drawn from Borough hill towards Harborough. And indeed, the convoy of horse being returned from Oxford the night before, and this unexpected march of the army close up to them, being in a manner a surprise of them; caused them speedily to resolve upon their *fore-mentioned* march towards Pomfract; either judging, the army would not follow them, or if they did, they should be

able

able to fight us at more advantage after they had drawn us further northwards. About six of the clock in the morning, a council of war was called, to consider what attempt to make upon the enemy. In the midst of the debate came in Lieu. Genl Cromwell, out of the association, (Essex, Suffolk, Bedford, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire) with six hundred horse and dragoons, who was with the greatest joy received by the General and the whole army. Instantly orders were given for drums to beat, trumpets to sound to horse, and all our army to draw to a rendezvous; from whence a good party of horse were sent towards Daventry, under the command of Major Harrison (of whose continued fidelity the publique hath had sufficient testimony) to bring further intelligence of the enemies motion:

and

and another strong party of horse was sent under the command of Colonel Ireton to fall upon the flank of the enemy if he saw cause: and the main body of the army marched to flank the enemy in the way to Harborough, and came that night to Gilling, the country much rejoicing at our coming; and some had their children taken from them, and sold before their faces to the Irish of that army, whom the parents were enforced to redeem with the price of money. That evening we understood that the van of the enemies army was at Harborough, the rear within two miles of Naseby: and no sooner was the General got to his quarters, but tidings were brought him of the good service done by Colonel Ireton, in falling into the enemies quarters, which they had newly taken up

in Naseby town*, where he took many prisoners, some of the Prince's life guards, and Langdale's brigades, and gave a sound alarm through the enemy's army (the confidence of the enemy in possessing these quarters, grounded upon their slight esteem of this army, and want of intelligence, was rather remarkable.) Upon this alarm, the King, (not having notice of it till eleven at night, as he had little imagined the nearness of our army, or that they durst bear up to him) much amazed, left his own quarters at that unseasonable time; and for security went to Harborough ‡, where

* See page 75.

‡ It is said, from Lubbenham, a small mile from Harborough, where he had taken up his quarters at the house of a Major Hawksworth, now called the Old Hall house, in which there is a room still retaining the name of the King's room.

Prince Rupert quartered; and so soon as he came thither, sent to call up his nephew, (resting himself in a chair in a low room, in the mean time) who presently arose; a council of war was called: the question was put, what was best to be done seeing our army was so near, and as they then perceived, fully intended to engage them. It was considered by them, that should they march on to Leicester, if the rear were engaged, the whole army might be put in hazard; and there was no marching with the van, unless they could bring the rear clear off, which they discerned to be difficult. Whereupon it was resolved to give battle, taking themselves (as indeed they were) for a more considerable force than we, especially in horse, on which they chiefly depended; being also as confident, they might relye upon their infantry

Prince

for

for valient resolute men; and they resolved (as appears) not to abide in that place till we marched up to them, but in a gallant bravery to seek us out. Hereth the King's Council prevailed against the minds of most of his great officers, who were of opinion that it was best to avoid fighting.

Saturday, June 14th, the General with the army advanced by three of the clock in the morning, from Gilling* towards Naseby, with an intention to follow close upon the enemy, and (if possible)

* This has mostly been taken for Gullborough, but I am inclined to believe it a house so called, which stood in a ground, formerly belonging to Sulby Abby, called Slever's hill, now Slever's hill, close about two miles south of Naseby. A person of this place, now living, remembers the remains of it being pulled down: and most of the inhabitants agree as to the name. Gullborough so called, has been so written. See page 119.

retard

putting

retard their march with our horse, till our foot could draw up to them, in case they should have marched on to Leicester (the intelligence being, that they had drawn some of their carriages in the night thro' Harborough) that way. By five in the morning, the army was at a rendezvous near Naseby, where his excellency (Gen. Fairfax) received intelligence by our spies, that the enemy was at Harborough; with this, further, that it was still doubtful, whether he meant to march away, or to stand us. But immediately the doubt was resolved: great bodies of the enemies horse were discerned on the top of the hill on this side Harborough, which increasing more and more in our view, begat a confidence in the General and the residue of the officers, that he meant not to draw away, as some imagined, but that he was

putting

putting his army in order, either there to receive us, or to come to us, to engage us upon the ground we stood: whilst the General was thus observing the countenance of the enemy, directions were given to put the army in such a posture, as that if the enemy came on, we might take the advantage of our ground, and be in readiness to receive him; or if not, that we might advance towards him. And whilst these things were in consultation and action, the enemy's army, which before was the greatest part of it out of our view by reason of the hill that interposed, we saw plainly advancing in order towards us: and the wind blowing somewhat westwardly, by the enemies advance so much on their right hand, it was evident, that he designed to get the wind of us: which occasioned the General to draw down into a large fallow field

field on the north-west side of Naseby, flanked on the left side with a hedge, which was a convenient place for us to fight the enemy in. And indeed seeing his resolution to advance upon us, we took the best advantage we could of the ground, possessing the ledge of a hill, running from east to west; upon which, our army being drawn up, fronted towards the enemy. But considering it might be of advantage to us to draw up our army out of sight of the enemy, who marched upon a plain ground towards us, we retreated about an hundred paces from the ledge of the hill, so that the enemy might not perceive in what form our battle was drawn, nor see any confusion therein, and yet we to see the form of their battle; to which we could conform ourselves for advantages, and recover the advantage of the hill when

we pleased, which accordingly we did. The enemy perceiving this retreat, thought (as since they have confessed) we were drawing off to avoid fighting (and just then it was brought to the King, that our army was flying to Northampton) which did occasion them the more to persipitate: for they made so much haste, that they left many of their ordnance behind them. The General, together with the Major General, put the several brigades of foot into order: having committed the ordering of the horse to Lieu. Gen. Cromwell, who did obtain from the General, that seeing the horse were near 6000, and were to be fought in two wings, his excellency would please to make Colonel Iretton Commissary General of horse, and appoint him to command the left wing that day; the command of the right wing being as much

as the Lieutenant General could apply himself unto. Which being granted by the General, the Lieutenant General assigned him five regiments of horse, a division of 200 horse out of the association, for that wing; and the dragoons to line the fore-mentioned hedge* to prevent the enemy from annoying the left flank of the army. In the mean time, the Lieutenant General having six regiments of horse with him for the right wing, disposed them as the place gave leave. And the form of the whole you have here inserted.

Upon the enemy's approach, the parliament's army marched up to the brow of the hill, having placed a forlorn of foot

* The meer hedge which parts the Lordships of Sulby and Naseby.

(musquetiers)

(musketeers) consisting of about 300, down the steep of the hill towards the enemy, somewhat more than carbine shot from the main battle, who were ordered to retreat to the battle, whensoever they should be hard pressed upon by the enemy. The enemy this while marched up in good order, a swift march, with a great deal of gallantry and resolution, according to the form here inserted. It is hard to say, whether wing of our horse charged first; but the Lieutenant General (Cromwell) not thinking it fit to stand and receive the enemies charge, advanced forward with the right wing of the horse, in the same order wherein it was placed. There word was Queen Mary. Our word was that day, God our strength*, Colonel

* Other accounts say, God and Queen Mary:—God with us,

Whaley* being the left hand on the right wing, charged first two divisions of Langdales horse, who made a very gallant resistance, and firing at a very close charge, they came to the sword: wherein Colonel Whaley's divisions routed those two divisions of Langdales, driving them back to Prince Rupert's regiment, being the reserve of the enemies foot, whither indeed they fled for shelter, and rallied: the reserves to Colonel Whaley were ordered to second him, which they performed with a great deal of resolution. In the mean time, the rest of the divisions of the right wing, being straightened by furzes on the right

* A rigid puritan, and first cousin to Oliver, afterwards Lord Protector. For his services at Naseby the Parliament, June 20, 1645, voted him to be Colonel of Horse. He signed the King's death-warrant.

Noble's Memoirs.

hand,

hand, advanced with great difficulty, as also by reason of the unevenness of the ground, and a coney-warren*, over which they were to march, which put them somewhat out of their order in their advance. Notwithstanding which difficulty, they came up to the engaging the residue of the enemies horse on the left wing, whom they routed, and put into great confusion, not one body of the enemies horse which they charged, but they routed, and forced to fly beyond all their foot, except some that were for a time sheltered by the brigade of foot before mentioned. *the right hand of the foot, being much* Colonel Rossiter, who with his regiment was just come into the field, as the *neals Regiment stood, not being much* guided gallant, *in some disorder, falling behind* *the rest of the army* This was the coney-warren mentioned p. 20. *the officers*

armies were ready to close: was edg'd in upon the right flank of the right wing of horse, time not permitting a more fitting and equal disposal of him: whose timely coming (according to his orders) gave him opportunity of such gallant performance in the battle, as deserves an honourable mentioning.

The horse of the enemies left wing being thus beaten from their foot, retreated back about a quarter of a mile beyond the place where the battle was fought. The success of our main battle was not answerably; the right hand of the foot, being the Generals Regiment, stood, not being much pressed upon: almost all the rest of the main battle being overpressed, gave ground and went off in some disorder, falling behind the reserves, but the Colonels and Officers

doing

doing the duty of very gallant men, in endeavouring to keep their men from disorder, and finding their attempt fruitless therein, fell into the reserves with their colours, choosing rather there to fight and die, than to quit the ground they stood on. The reserves advancing, commanded by Col. Rainborough, Col. Hammond, and Lieu. Col. Pride*, repelled the enemy, forcing them to a disorderly retreat. Thus much being said of the right wing and the main battle, it comes next in order, that

* A foundling in a church porch. He was at first a drayman, but by siding with the popular party, established a brewery, and afterwards obtained a commission in the army, and rose to be a Colonel. He was a soldier of fortune, and consequently resolved to go great lengths. He may justly be called the bassaw of that parliament that made even majesty tremble. He too signed the King's death-warrant.

Noble's Memoirs.

an account be given of the left wing of our horse. men their great endeavouring to keep their order, and finding their attempt fruitless. Upon the approach of the enemies right wing of horse, our left wing drawing down the brow of the hill to meet them, the enemy coming on fast, suddenly made a stand, as if they had not expected us in so ready a posture: ours seeing them stand, made a little stand also, partly by reason of some disadvantage of the ground, and untill the rest of the divisions of horse might recover their stations. Upon that the enemy advanced again, whereupon our left wing founded a charge, and fell upon them: the three right-hand divisions of our left wing made the first onset, and those divisions of the enemy opposite to them received the charge; the two left-hand divisions of the left wing did not advance

advance equally, but being more backward, the opposite divisions of the enemy advanced upon them. Of the three right-hand divisions (before mentioned) which advanced, the middlemost charged, not home; the other two coming to a close charge, routed the two opposite divisions of the enemy (and the Commissary General Ireton*: seeing one of the enemies brigades of foot on his right hand, pressing sore upon our

* Henry Ireton, Commissary General to Sir Thomas Fairfax, and Bridget daughter of Oliver Cromwell, Lieutenant General of the Horse to the said Sir Thomas Fairfax, was married by Mr. Doll in Lady Whorwood (in her house in thorton Jan. 15th, 1646.

ALBAN EALES, Rector.

JOHN GLOVER, Churchwarden

Parish register of Horton in Oxfordshire.

He was the eldest son of German Ireton, of Attenton, in the county of Nottingham, Esq; and was born in the year 1610.

foot,

foot, commanded the division that was with him, to charge that body of foot, and for their better encouragement, he himself with great resolution fell in amongst the musquetiers, where his horse being shot under him, and himself run through the thigh with a pike, and into the face with an halbert, was taken prisoner by the enemy, untill afterwards, when the battle turned, and the enemy in great distraction, he had an happy opportunity to offer his keeper his liberty, if he would carry him off, which was performed on both parts accordingly.) That division of the enemies, which was between, which the other division of ours should have charged, was carried away in the disorder of the other two; the one of those right-hand divisions of our left wing that did rout the front of the enemy, charged the reserve
 too,

too, and broke them; the other reserves of the enemy came on, and broke those divisions of ours that charged them; the divisions of the left hand of the right wing were likewise overborne, having much disadvantage by reason of pits of water, and other pieces of ditches that they expected not, which hindered them in their order to charge.

The enemy having thus worsted our left wing, pursued their advantage, and Prince Rupert himself having persecuted his success upon the left wing, almost to Naseby town, on his return summoned the train, offering them quarter, which being well defended, with the firelocks, and a rear guard left for that purpose, who fired with admirable courage on the princes horse, refused to hearken to his offer, and the

Prince

Prince probably perceiving by that time the success of our right wing of horse, he retreated in great haste to the rescue of the King's army, which he found in such a general distress, that instead of attempting any thing in the rescue of them (being close followed in the rear by some of the Commissary Generals, Col. Riches, Col. Fleetwood, Major Hnntingtons, and Col. Butlers horse) he made up further, untill he came to the ground where the King was rallying the broken horse of his left wing, and there join'd with them, and made a stand.

“ To return again to our right wing, which prosecuted their success, by this time had beaten all the enemies horse quite beyond their foot, which when they had accomplished, the remaining business was

with

with part to keep the enemies horse from coming to the rescue of their foot, which were now all at mercy, except one tertias, which with the other part of the horse we endeavoured to break, but could not, they standing with incredible courage and resolution, although we attempted them in the flanks, front, and rear, untill such time as the General called up his own regiment of foot, (the Lieutenant General being likewise hastening of them) which immediately fell in with them, with butt-end of muskets, (the General charging them at the same time with horse) and so broke them. The enemy had now nothing left in the field, but his horse (with whom was the King himself) which they had put again into as good order as the shortness of their time and our near pressing upon them would permit.

“ The

“The General (whom God preserved in many hazardous engagements of his person that day) seeing them in that order, and our whole army (saving some bodies of horse which faced the enemy) being busied in the execution upon the foot; and taking, and securing prisoners, endeavoured to put the army again into as good order as they could receive, to the perfecting the work that remained: our foot were somewhat more than a quarter of a mile behind the horse, and although there wanted no courage nor resolution in the horse themselves alone to have charged the enemy, yet forasmuch as it was not judged fit to put any thing to hazard, the business being brought (through the goodness of God) to so hopefull an issue, it was ordered our horse should not charge the enemy untill the foot were come up; for
 by

by this time our foot that were disordered upon the first charge, being in a shorter time than is well imaginable rallied again, were coming up on a fast march to join with our horse, who were again put into two wings, within carbine shot of the enemy, leaving a wide space for the batail of foot to fall in, whereby there was framed, as it were in a trice, a second good batalia at the latter end of the day; which the enemy perceiving, and that if they stood, they must expect a second charge from our horse, foot, and artillery, (they having lost all their foot and guns before) and our dragoons having already begun to fire upon their horse, they not willing to abide a second shock upon so great disadvantage as this was like to be, immediately ran away, both fronts, and reserves, without standing one stroke more:

L

our

our horse had the chase of them from that place, within two miles of Leicester (being the space of fourteen miles*) took many prisoners, and had the execution of them all that way §: the number of the slain we had not a certain account of by reason of the prosecution of our victory, and speedy advance to the reducing of Leicester: the prisoners taken in the field were about five thousand, whereof were six Colonels, eight Lieutenant Colonels, eighteen Majors, seventy Captains, eighty Lieutenants, eighty Ensigns, two hundred other inferior officers, besides the King's footmen

* About eighteen statute miles.

§ Several were slain, according to tradition, in the village of Marston Trussel, about three miles from the field of battle; vulgarly called Pudding-bag Marston, from there being no thorough-fare through it.

and

and household servants, the rest common soldiers, four thousand five hundred.

The enemy lost many gallant men, and indeed their foot, commanded by the Lord Astley, were not wanting in courage; the whole booty of the field fell to the soldiers, which was very rich and considerable, there being amongst it, besides the riches of the Court, and officers, the rich plunder of Leicester.

“ Their train of artillery was taken, all their ordnance, (being brass guns) whereof two were demi-cannon, besides two mortar pieces (the enemy got away not one carriage) eight thousand arms and more, forty barrels of powder, two hundred horse, with their riders, the King's colours, the Duke of York's standard, and six of his

his colours, four of the Queen's* white colours, with double crosses on each of them, and near one hundred other colours both of horse and foot, the King's cabinet, the King's sumpter, many coaches, with store of wealth in them: it was not the least mercy in this victory, that the cabinet letters† fell likewise into our hands, and have been since published by the autho-

* The Queen was voted guilty of high treason, only, as it is said, for obeying the laws of God, Man and Honour, in assisting the King her husband.

Higgon's View of Eng. Hist. p. 259.

† As many of these as related to the publick, after being submitted to the inspection of Sir Edmund Prideaux, Attorney-General, were printed with observations, and kept upon record, by order of the two houses; who also made a public declaration of them, shewing what the nobility and gentry who followed the King were to expect. Amongst them, a list of such sums as several members of parliament had subscribed for the King's use was inserted.

Banks's Life of Cromwell, and Noble's Memoirs.

riety

rity of parliament, to the view of the whole kingdom. The field is about a mile broad where the battle was fought, and from the utmost flank of the right, to the left wing, took up the whole ground.

* The battle was fought much upon equal advantage, whether you respect the numbers on each side, there being in that not five hundred odds, or the ground it was fought upon, being on both sides champaign*, and in that respect equal, and the wind at length favoured neither side more than the other. But in this the enemy had much the odds of us, that they

* It was, indeed, an open country, but the parliament's forces had, evidently, the advantage of a rising ground.

had

had on their side not so few as fifteen hundred officers, that were old soldiers, of great experience, through long experience in foreign parts; when on the other hand, we had not ten officers that could pretend to any such thing, as the experience of a soldier, save what this war had given them, being for the most part such, whose religion, valour, and present reason was their best conduct.

“The great share Lieut. Cromwell* had in this action, who commanded the right

* 'Tis said, that in this action, a commander of the King's knowing Cromwell, advanced briskly from the head of his troops, to exchange a single bullet with him, and was with equal bravery encountered by him, both sides forbearing to come in; till their pistols being discharged, the cavalier, with a slanting back blow of a broad sword, chanced to cut the ribbon that held Cromwell's surrion, and with a draw threw it off his head; and now, just as he

was

right wing of horse, (which did such service) is so known and acknowledged, that envy itself can neither detract from nor deny. One passage relating to his service in this battle, which I received from

was going to repeat his stroke, Cromwell's party came in and rescued him; and one of them alighting, threw up his head-piece into his saddle, which he hastily catching, clapped it on the wrong way, and so bravely fought with it the rest of the day.

This iron cap or head-piece, covered with black velvet, is now in the possession of a Mr. Cromwell, (a relation of the Protector's) he resides in Essex-Street in the Strand; and is Clerk to St. Thomas's Hospital in London.

Banks's Life of Cromwell, and Noble's Memoirs.

I have it from the authority of a respectable clergyman in this neighbourhood, of the name of Thomas, that the commander's name was Thomas. He claims no relationship to him,

Lord Clarendon quotes Whitelock, p. 259, for a similar accident happening to Gen. Fairfax. He says, Fairfax had his helmet beat off, but, however, rode up and down, bare headed.

one that well knew it, I shall commit to this history; that he being come not above two days before out of the association, and (that day the battle was) attended the General in the field, who was going to draw up for an engagement: he had the charge and ordering of all the horse cast upon him by the General unexpectedly, but a little before the battle; which he had no sooner received, but it was high time to apply himself to the discharge of it: for before the field officers could give a tolerable account of the drawing up of the army, the enemy came on again in passing good order, while our army was yet in disorder, or the order of it but an embryo: which Lieut. Gen. Cromwell perceiving, was so far from being dismayed at it, that it was the rise and occasion of a most triumphant faith and joy in him. Had

not Major General Skippon* done gallantly, he had not received such an early wound in his side; and had he not a spring of resolution, he had not stayed in the field as he did till the battle was ended; for being desired by his excellency Gen. Fairfax† to go off the field, he answered, he would not stir, so long as a man would stand. After the battle was ended, and the horse gone in pursuit, the army marched five miles that night to Harborough‡ (the head-quarter).

* Skippon won the hearts of his soldiers by such speeches as these, "Come my boys, my brave boys! I will run the same hazard with you; remember the cause is for God: come my honest brave boys! let us pray heartily, and fight heartily, and God will bless us."

Noble's Memoirs.

† He was, at this time, 34 years old, and died in 1671, in the 60th year of his age.

Memorials of Lord Fairfax.

‡ About six measured miles from the field of battle.

Most

Most of the prisoners that were taken in the fight, were that night brought into Harborough church, except those that were wounded and sent to Northampton.

The following is a list of the officers taken in the battle, from a manuscript in the possession of Sir Thomas Cave Bart.

*Prisoners of war taken in Nableby field
June 14th 1645 in Comd Northampton*

Col. St. Rife Page	Maioir Moore
Theophilus Gilby Col.	Maioir Whitford
Lieut. Col. Woodhouse	Maioir Den
Lieut. Col. Lawson	Maioir Hooker
Lieut. Col. Bury	Maioir Rifely of horse
Lieut. Col. Thornton	Cap. Thornton of horse
Maioir Bryin	Cap. Shafty of horse
Maioir Sr. William Bridge	Cap. Lieut. Carnaby of horse
Maioir Pue	Cap. Lieut. Lambton of horse

Officers

from

THE HISTORY OF NASEBY. 153

*Prisoners of warre taken in Nablesby field
June 14th 1645 in Cam. Northton.*

*Officers of the King's Life
Guards, Foote,*

*Officers of the Duke of York's
Regiment, Life*

Cap. Fox

Cap. Fitzmorris

Cap. Lewens

Cap. Widnam

Cap. Flyer

Cap. Hill

Cap. Benton

Cap. Dier

Cap. Barby

Cap. Lieut. Hawksworth

Cap. Lieut. Waller

Lieut. Rosley

Lieut. Mewsey

Curlys

Lieut. Brown

Ryley

Ensigne Chamberlain

Ensigne Bennet

Ensigne Porter

Rosley

Ensigne Berkenhead

Young

Ensigne Ingolby

Bradshaw

Ensigne Moushall

Cap. Baskin

Life Guard of Horse.

*Prince Rupert's Regiment of
Horse.*

Captain Muson Reformado

Lieut. Frycer

Officers

Prisoners of warre taken in Nablesby field

June 14th. 1645 in Com. Northton.

*Officers in Prince Maurice's
Life Guard of Horse.*

*Officers of Sir Barnard's
Regiment of Foote.*

Cap. Garret

Cap. Hoare

Cap. Tempest

Fisher

Lieut. Baxter

Lieut. Weller

Quarter-master Simpson

Simons

Officers of the Lord Ashley's

Smith

Regiment of Foote.

Harden

Ensigne Chester

Homes

Cap. Walley

Symons

Cap. Jackson

Of Col. Appleyard's Regiment

Cap. Wright

of Foote.

Cap. Fowler

Cap. Baskerfield Reformato

Ensigne Ridley

Cap. Triwhit

Ensigne Rowland

Masters

Bennet Corpale of the
field

Sanderfon

Hubbart

Lieut.

THE HISTORY OF NASEBY. 1657

Prisoners of warre taken in Nablesby field
June 14th. 1645 in Com. Northton.

Of Col. Appleyard's Regiment
of Foote.

Lieut. Middleton

Thompson

Lewen

Baker

Of Col. Bagott's Regiment
of Foote.

Cap. Diot

Glazier

Lieut. Ward

Baggeley

Cowper Refor.

Ensigne Sharpe

Blencarne

Emmins

Thomas

Of Col. Sir John Parwlet's
Regiment of Foote.

Cap. Mason

Lieut. Birkwhit

Wynn

Kirkman

Bradford

Burling

Ensigne Yate

Glascock

Hutchins

Rife

Cooke

Of Col. Gerrard's Regiment
of Foote.

Maioi Bishop

Cap. Booth

Officers

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Prisoners of warre taken in Nableby field

June 14th. 1645 in Com. Northron

Of Col. Gerrard's Regiment Lieut. Pilkinton

of Foote.

Bates

Royndtree

Ensigne Blancy

Flexney

Perrin

Ballard

Roberts

Of Col. Page's Regiment of

Foote.

Ensigne Etherington

Lyng

Scot

Col. Page

Lieut. Col. Lawfon

Of Col. Lyle's Regiment of

Foote.

Maioir Sir Wm. Bridges

Cap. Etherington

Norton

Lieut. Col. Littleton

Pearson

Maioir Fowler

Carrington

Cap. Skirrough

Beneson

Whitgreen

Simpson

Littleton

Lieut. Vertaine

Pocklington

Egleton

Lieut. Carter

Of

*Prisoners of warre taken in Nableby field
June 14th. 1645 in Com. Northton.*

Of Col. Lyle's Regiment of Foote. Of Col. Murrey's Regiment of Foote.

Ensigne Turpin
Littleton

*Of Col. St. George's Regiment
of Foote.*

Maioir Whitmore
Cap. Owens

Lawrens

Lawrens

Herne

Lieut. Jones

Nassey

Jones

Jones

Ensigne Fenn

Maioir Whitford

Lieut. Sneyles

Griffise

Ensigne Hygham

Cecil Refor.

*Of Col. Sir Bard's Regiment
of Foote.*

Cap. Lesley

Deuolet

Cap. Lieut. Layson

Lieut. Fowler

Twisfield

Windsor

Ensigne Dobyson

Fairbrother

Of

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*Prisoners of warre taken in Nablesby field
June 14th. 1645 in Com. Northton.*

*Of Col. Vaughan's Regiment
of Horse.*

*Col. Broughton's Officers of
Foote.*

Lieut. Col. Slaughter

Ensigne Pritchard

Cap. Hosier

Porter

Lieut. Armstrong

Cornet Edmonds

Col. Tizzard's Officers of

Lieut. Billingley Refor.

Foote.

Quarter-master Nurse

Cap. Church

Col. Broughton's Officers of

Dykes

Foote.

Lieut. Busbridge

Ensigne Harrison

Cap. Lile

Bowen

Cap. Polden

Dillon

Lieut. Darrenfield

Loftus sen.

Oliver

Loftus jun.

Morgan

Duppey

Ensigne Vaughan

Col.

*Prisoners of warre taken in Nablesby field
June 14th 1645 in Com. Northton.*

Col. Sir Fulk Huns' Officers Besides these 4500 more
of Foote. prisoners.

Lieut. Rewes

Perren

Ensigne Smith

Col. Lewsey's Officers of Foote.

Cap. Lieut. Parker

Lieut. Johnson

Cole

" The next day Colonel John Fiennes,
with his regiment, was sent up to London
by the General, with the prisoners* and

colours

* The prisoners were secured in the Artillery Ground
near Tuthill fields; a committee being appointed to consider

M

how

colours taken in the fight; who had a great share in the performance of that day, being placed with his regiment in the right wing of the horse, carried himself gallantly, and was very happy in his success."

"Thus," Mr. Sprigge adds, "you have a true and exact relation of the work of this day."

This is probably the longest and most minute detail of this day's work by an eye witness, and may be an impartial relation; but for the satisfaction of some of my

how to dispose of them, who permitted those to return home that would give security for their living peaceably for the future; but such as did not, which was much the greater number, were shipped off to serve in foreign parts upon condition.

Ludlow's Memoirs, p. 157.

The prisoners were secured in the Artillery Ground. A committee being appointed to consider the readers,

readers, here is added the account given by Lord Clarendon, as it differs in some respects from the foregoing.

“Upon the thirteenth of June,” says his Lordship, “the King received intelligence, that Fairfax was advanced to Northampton, with a strong army; much superior to the numbers he had formerly been advertized of. Whereupon, his Majesty retired the next day to Harborough; and meant to have gone back to Leicester that he might draw more foot out of Newark, and stand upon his defence, till the other forces which he expected could come up to him. But that very night the alarm was brought to Harborough, that Fairfax himself was quartered within *six* miles. A council was presently called, the former resolution of retiring presently laid aside, and a new

one as suddenly taken to fight; to which there was always an immoderate appetite, when the enemy was within any distance. They would not stay to expect his coming, but would go back to meet him. And so, in the morning early, being Saturday the fourteenth of June, all the army was drawn up, upon a rising ground of very great advantage, about a mile south from Harborough, (which was left at their back) and there put in order to give, or receive, the charge. The main body of the foot was led on by the Lord Astley (whom the King had lately made a Baron) consisting of about two thousand and five hundred foot; the right wing of horse, being about two thousand, was led by Prince Rupert; the left wing, consisting of all the northern horse, with those from Newark, which did not amount to above

sixteen hundred, was commanded by Sir Marmaduke Langdale; in the reserve were the King's life guard, commanded by the Earl of Lindsey, and Prince Rupert's regiment of foot, (both which did make very little above eight hundred) with the King's horse guards, commanded by the Lord Bernard Stuart, (newly made Earl of Litchfield) which made that day about five hundred horse. The army, thus disposed in good order, made a stand on that ground to expect the enemy. About eight of the clock in the morning, it began to be doubted whether the intelligence they had received of the enemy was true. Upon which the scoutmaster was sent to make further discovery; who, it seems, went not far enough; but returned, and averred, "that he had been three or four miles forward, and could neither discover nor hear

any thing of them:" presently a report was raised in the army, that the enemy was retired. Prince Rupert therefore drew out a party of horse and musqueteers; both to discover, and engage them, the army still remaining in the same place and posture they had been in. His Highness had not marched above a mile, when he received certain intelligence of their advance, and in a short time after, he saw the van of their army, but it seems not so distinctly, but that he conceived they were retiring. Whereupon he advanced nearer with his horse, and sent back, "that the army should march up to him;" and the messenger who brought the order, said, "that the Prince desired they should make haste." Hereupon the advantage ground was quitted, and the excellent order they were in, and an advance made toward the enemy,

enemy, as well as might be seen. By that
 time they had marched about a mile and a
 half, the horse of the enemy was discerned
 to stand upon a high ground about Naseby;
 whence, seeing the manner of the King's
 march, in a full campaign, they had lei-
 sure and opportunity to place themselves;
 with all the advantages they could desire.
 The Prince's natural heat and impatience
 could never endure an enemy long in his
 view; nor let him believe that they had
 the courage to endure his charge. Thus
 the army was engaged before the cannon
 was turned, or the ground made choice of
 upon which they were to fight: so that
 courage was only to be relied upon, where
 all conduct failed so much. It was about
 ten of the clock when the battle began:
 the first charge was given by Prince Ri-
 pert; who, with his own, and his brother
 d'niw

Prince Maurice's troop, performed it with his usual vigour; and was so well seconded, that he bore down all before him, and was master of six pieces of the rebels best cannon. The Lord Astley, with his foot, though against the hill, advanced upon their foot; who discharging their cannon at them, overshot them, and so did their musqueteers. For the foot on either side hardly saw each other till they were within carbine shot, and so only gave one volley; the King's foot, according to their usual custom, falling in with their swords, and the but-ends of their muskets; with which they did very notable execution, and put the enemy into great disorder and confusion. The right wing of the horse and foot being thus fortunately engaged and advanced, the left wing, under Sir Marmaduke Langdale, in five bodies, advanced

with equal resolution; and was encountered by Cromwell, who commanded the right wing of the enemies horse; with seven bodies greater and more numerous than either of the other; and had, besides the odds in number, the advantage of the ground; for the King's forces were obliged to march up the hill*, before they could charge them, yet they did their duty, as well as the place, and great inequality of numbers, would enable them to do. But being flanked on both sides by the enemies horse, and pressed hard, before they could get to the top of the hill, they gave back, and fled farther and faster than became them. Four of the enemies bodies, close, and in good order, followed them, that they might not rally again; which they

* This hill is of a considerable ascent.

never thought of doing; and the rest charged the King's footy who had till then so much the advantage over theirs; whilst Prince Rupert, with the right wing, pursued those horse which he had broken and defeated. The King's reserve of horse, which was his own guards, with himself in the head of them, were even ready to charge those horse who pursued his left wing, when, on a sudden, such a panick fear seized upon them, that they all run near a quarter of a mile without stopping*, which happened upon an extraordinary accident, that hath seldom fallen out, and might well disturb and disorder very resolute troops, as those were, and the best horse in the army. The King, as was said before, was upon the point of charging

* Rapin flatly contradicts this.

the enemy, in the head of his guards, when the Earl of Carnwarth*, who rode next to him, (a man never suspected for infidelity, nor yet one from whom the King would have received counsel in such a case) on a sudden, laid his hand on the bridle of the King's horse, and swearing two or three full-mouthed Scottish oaths, (for of that nation he was) said, "Will you go upon your death in an instant?" and before his Majesty understood what he

* 1639 Robert Dalzell Lord Dalzell Earl of Carnwarth. Forfeited in 1715.

Beatson's Political Index, 2d part, p. 166. 1st Edition.

See too Banke's account of Worcester fight by Charles II. where he was taken prisoner.

The blame must be laid somewhere; but Lord Carnwarth was not discarded, for we find him employed under Lord Digby, Lieut. Gen. of the forces raised, or to be raised for the King, on the north of Trent.

Lord Clarendon, v. 4. p. 177.

would

would have, turned his horse round; upon which, a word run through the troops, that they should march to the right hand; which led them both from charging the enemy, and assisting their own men: upon this they all turned their horses, and rode upon the spur, as if they were every man to shift for himself.

“It is very true, that upon the more soldierly word, *stand*, which was sent after them, many of them returned to the King; though the former unlucky word carried more from him.

“By this time Prince Rupert was returned with a good body of those horse, which had attended him in his prosperous charge on the right wing; but they having, as they thought, acted their parts, could
blow never

never be brought to rally themselves again in good order, or to charge the enemy. That difference was observed all along, in the discipline of the King's troops, and of those which marched under the command of Fairfax and Cromwell (for it was only under them, and had never been remarkable under Essex or Waller) that, though the King's troops prevailed in the charge, and routed those they charged, they seldom rallied themselves again in good order, nor could be brought to make a second charge again the same day; which was the reason that they had not an entire victory at Edgehill: whereas the other troops, if they prevailed, or though they were beaten, and routed, presently rallied again, and stood in good order, till they received new orders. All that the King and Prince could do, could not rally their
broken

broken troops, which stood in insufficient numbers upon the field, though they often endeavoured it, with the manifest hazard of their own persons. So that in the end, the King was compelled to quit the field; and to leave Fairfax master of all his foot, cannon, and baggage, amongst which was his own cabinet, where his most secret papers were, and letters between the Queen and him; of which they shortly after made that barbarous use as was agreeable to their natures; and published them in print; that is, so much of them, as they thought would asperse either of their Majesties; and improve the prejudice they had raised against them; and concealed other parts, which would have vindicated them from many particulars with which they had aspersed them.

I shall never

"I shall not," his Lordship adds, "stay in this place to mention the names of those noble persons who were lost in this battle, when the King and Kingdom were lost in it; though there were above one hundred and fifty officers, and gentlemen of prime quality, dead upon the spot; whose memories ought to be preserved.* The enemy left no manner of cruelty un-

* Sir Peter Brown of Kiddington, wounded at Naseby, died at Northampton.

Sir Thomas Dallison, slain at Naseby.

COLONELS. Bawd and Bagott.

LIEUT. COLONELS. Sayer, Lawson, and Frances.

MAJORS. Willson, Rively, wounded at Naseby, died in prison at London.

CAPTAINS. Markham, Messenger, Thorold, Greenbury, Gough, Cooke, Tomkins, Selby, Bush, Hoskins.

Vide Sprigge and Prestwicke's Republica.

exercised

unexercised that day; and in the pursuit killed above one hundred women, whereof some were the wives of officers of quality. The King and Prince Rupert, with the broken troops, marched by Leicester that night to Ashby de la Zouch. Notwithstanding the foregoing particulars, the three following authentic copies of original letters, relating to this battle, and deserving of a place here, will be deemed curiosities. In the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty-four, they were found in a wall nine feet thick, on pulling down a house in Palace Yard Westminster, in order to build an office for the clerks of the House of Lords: the publick is indebted for the communication to the present Earl of Orford.

LET-

LETTER 1st.

Indorsed—*To the Hon. Wm. Lenthall, Esq.**

Speaker to the House of Commons—Haste.

"Honorable Sir,

"This morning, by day brake, wee marcht out Guilsboro, after the enemy. After an hours march wee discovered their horse drawne up at Sibbertoff three miles this side Harborough; an hour after their foot appeared; this was about 8 in the morning: by 10 we were disposed into a battalia on both sides; both sides with mighty shouts, exprest a hearty desire of fighting, having for our parts recommended our cause to God's protection, and received the word, which

* He died Sept. 1st, 1661, and by his own desire was privately buried at Burford in Oxfordshire; declaring in his last illness, that he desired no other epitaph than "vermis sum": it is observable he was buried upon Sept. 3d.

Noble's Memoirs.

was, God our strength; theirs, Queen Mary; our forlorne hopes begun the pla ---, while both sides laboured for the hill and wynd, which in conclusyon w --- as it were equally divided. Our forlorne hope gave back, and their right wing of horse fell upon our left, with such gallantry, that ours were immediately routed; about 1000 ran along with them, but such was the courage and diligence of the right wing, backt with the foot, that they not only beat back the enemy, from the traine; but fell in with their ffoot, and after 2 hours dispute won all their ffield peeces (of which some are cannon) most of their baggage, mortar-peeces, boats 3000 arms, much powder, match, &c. and nigh 4000 prisoners; some 600 slayne, many commanders of note: of ours not above 200. Our horse are still in pursuit, and have taken many officers; their standard is ours, the King's waggon, and many ladies. God Almighty give us thankful hearts for this great victory, the most absolute as yet obtayned. The General, Lieut. Gen. Cromwell,

and

and Major Gen. Skippon (who is shot in the side, but not dangerous) did beyond expression gallantly; so did all the other commanders and soldiers: we have lost but 2 Capt. Tho this come late be pleased to accept it from your Honors

most Humble Servants,

HAR. LEIGHTON.

THO. HERBERT*.

*Naseby where this fight was
this Saturday 14 Junii 1645.*

"Capt. Potter is dangerously wounded but hopes of his recovery, so is Capt. Cook."

* Thomas Herbert one of the four Commissioners of Parliament residing in the country. Another of them Cap. Potter was slain in this fight. Sprigge 326. Tho' the P. S. hopes otherwise.

LETTER 2d.

*For the Hon. Wm. Lenthall speaker of the commons
Hous of Parliament.*

"SIR,

"Being commanded by you to this service, I think myself bound to acquaint you with the good hand of God towards you and us.

"We marched yesterday after the king, who went before us from Daventry to Haverbrowe, and quartered about six miles from him: this day we marched towards him; he drew out to meet us. Both armies engaged; we after three hours fight* very doubtful, at last routed his army, killed and took about 5000, very many officers, but of what quality we yet know not: we took also about 200 carrag. all he had, and all his guns (being 12 in

* Mr. Sprigge says the fight lasted 2 hours.

number I think) the rest Sakers. We pursued the enemy from three miles short of Haverbrowe to nine beyond, even to the fight of Leicester whither the King fled.

“ Sir, this is none other but the hand of God, and to him alone belongs the glory wherein none are to share with him. The general served you with all faithfulness and honour, and the best commendation I can give of him is, that I dare say he attributes all to God and would rather perish than assume to himself which is an honest and a thriving way yet as much for bravery must be given him in this action as to a man.

“ Honest men serv’d you faithfully in this action. Sir they are trusty, I beseech you in the name of God not to discourage them.

“ I wish this action may beget thankfulness and humility in all that are concerned in it. He that ventures his life for the liberty of his country, I

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with he trust God for the liberty of his conscience,
and you for the liberty he fights for I as their
Helpmate

who is your most humble Servant,

OLIVER CROMWELL*."

Haverbrooke, June 14th, 1645.

* A sabre worn by the protector at Naseby, is now in the possession of the present Earl of Fauconberg; his head is engraven upon the blade, with this inscription, 'Oliver Cromwell, General for the English Parliament, 1652;' above it, *Soli Deo Glorior*; below it, *Fide sed cui vide*; on the other side of the blade is the same head and inscription as above, and a man on horseback with the inscriptions, *Spes mea est Deo*; below it, *vincere aut mori*.

Noble's Memoirs.

LETTER

LETTER 3d.

Indorsed—*For the Hon. William Lenthall Esq;
speaker of the House of Commons.*

“ Mr. Speaker,

“ Besides the general account I have already given by one of my servants whom I sent up to London yesterday, I thought fit to send the bearer, Mr. Boles, who may more particularly inform you concerning the abundant goodness of God to this army and the whole kingdome in the late victorie at Naseby field. The whole body of their foot taken and slaine; such a list of the prisoners as could be made up in this short time I have sent*; the horse all quitted the fildes and were pursued within three miles of Leicester: their ammunition, ordnance, and carriages all taken; among which there were two demycanons, a

* Vide p. 154.

whole culverin, and a mortar piece, besides lesser peeces. We intend to move to Leicester, as soon as we have taken orders, with our prisoners and wounded men. All that I desire is, that the honor of this greate and never to be forgotten mercie may be given to God in an extraordinary day of thanksgiving, and that it may be improved to the good of his church and his kingdome, which shall be faithfully endeavoured by Sir

Your most humble servant,

THO. FAIRFAX.

The following by way of postscript.

“Some Irish are among the prisoners, as I am informed, I have not time to make enquiry into it, I desire they may be proceeded against according to ordnance of parliament. Major Gen. Skippon was shot thro’ his side, but notwithstanding he continued in the ffield with great resolution, and when I desired him to goe off the ffield, he answered he would not goe so long as

a man

a man would stand, still doing his office as a valiant and wise commander. Also Colonel Butler and Colonel Ireton upon their first charge were both dangerously wounded, behaving themselves very gallantly. If I could enter into particulars, much might be spoken of the resolution and courage of many commanders both horse and foot in this day's service."

Harris's Life of Cromwell.

Skippon's wound, however, proved so considerable, that he could not join the army again till 1st May next year, the day the Gen. came before Oxford. The Major General was received by the army with much joy.

Sprigge 248. 44.

All that I can say more relative to this battle

battle is, that balls continue to be ploughed up, several of which are kept in the village as curiosities; I myself had one, a musket-ball, ploughed up the fifth of February, 1781, but have made a present of it to a lady in the neighbourhood, who hath added it to her cabinet of curiosities.

I shall beg leave to trouble my reader with the following extract from Rastall's history of Southwell: for though some parts of it may now seem trifling, they paint, in strong colours, the superstition of those times.

“ In the latter end of May, 1645, it was intended by the King to attempt the recovery of the north out off the hands of the parliament, and it was thought while there was a strong garrison att Leicester,
and

and another at Newark, to keep in awe the middle parts of the kingdom, and separate the forces off the parliament, that expedition might be undertaken with safetie. But providence determined otherways. The garrison off Oxford having made a desperate fallie, and destroyed all the enemies works, Sir Thomas Fairfax raised the siege, and marched to Northampton to look out for the King, whose armie, long fatigued by action, and a vigourous siege, they thought would be an easy conquest, and might thus end the war att one blow. On this intelligence the northern expedition was layed aside, and the armie, consisting of less than five thousand foot, and about as many horse, were ordered to Daintree, whither the King went with a thorough resolution of fighting. The next day, however, to the surprize of Prince Rupert
and

and all the rest of the armie, this design was given up, and the former one off going to the north resumed. The occasion off this alteration was said to be some presages off ill fortune which the King received, and which were related to me by a person off Newark att that time in his Majestie's horse. About two hours after the King had retired to rest, some off his attendants hearing an uncommon noise in his chamber, went into it, where they found his Majestie setting up in bed, and much agitated, but nothing which could have produced the noise they fancied they heard. The King, in a trembling voice, enquired after the cause of their alarm, and told them how much he had been agitated in a dream, by thinking he saw the apparition of Lord Strafford, who, after upbraiding him with unkindness, told him,
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he was come to return him good for evil, and that he advised him by no means to fight the parliament armie that was at that time quartered at Northampton, for in it was one whom the King could never conquer by arms. Prince Rupert, in whom courage was the predominant qualitie, rated the King out of his apprehensions the next day, and a resolution was again taken to meet the enemy. The next night, however, the apparition appeared to him a second time, but with looks of anger, assuring him, that would be the last advice he should be permitted to give him, but that if he kept his resolution off fighting he was undone. If his majestie had taken the advice of the friendly ghost, and marched northward the next day, where the parliament had few English forces, and where the Scots were becoming very discontented,

his

his affairs might, perhaps, still have had a prosperous issue; or, if he had marched immediately into the west to join the Lord Goreinge, who had there a good body of horse, he might afterwards have fought on more equal terms. But the King fluctuating between the apprehensions off his imagination and the reproaches off his courage, remayned another whole day at Daintree in a state of inactivitie. Att length the former got the better, and on the 13th off June he determined to march northward the next day. Att night word was brought him that the enemy were within eight miles. Still, however, keeping his resolution, they marched the next morninge, but had not gott far before the armie under Fairfax was upon their rear. There was now no alternative. The King made a judicious disposition off his little force,

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but was beat by the intemperate pursuit off a part off the enemies left wing by Prince Rupert. This was called the battle of Naseby, fought 14th June 1645, which put a finishing stroke to the King's affairs. After this he could never get together an armie fit to look the enemy in the face. He was often heard to say, that he wished he had taken *the warning*, and not fought at Naseby; the meaning of which nobody knew, but those to whom he told this appearance at Daintree, and they were afterwards all of them charged to conceal it. After this battle the royal forces separated. The King with about two thousand five hundred horse, went through Cheshire into Wales, where he staid some time till the beginning of August. Sir Marmaduke Langdale went with about the same number to Newark; these being all that could be

be got together, so compleat was the defeat. In September, Bristol surrendered to the parliament; not long after the King's troops, under the command of the Earl Litchfield, were defeated before the very walls of Chester, and immediately after this, came the news that the brave Montross, with the last considerable armie that appeared in the field in favour of King Charles, was entirely routed in Scotland; Berklay Castle in Gloucestershire, and Devizes in Wiltshire, followed the example of the other garrisons, and surrendered to the parliament. Newark still held out for the King, and it was almost the only place of strength and consequence that did so. Thither the King with the wreck of his armie repaired in the beginning of October. Here he determined to remayne, and make the best terms he could with the parliament,

parliament, since all his efforts to overcome them proved ineffectual. He had quarrelled with Prince Rupert, and believed himself to be betrayed by him. Sir Richard Willis, who had succeeded Byron in the government off Newark Castle, had taken the part off the Prince too warmly, and was removed. These dissatisfied leaders, with many inferior officers who had attached themselves to their fortunes, receded from Newark, and took possession off Belvoir Castle. The unhappy monarch was now reduced to absolute dispair. Proscribed by his parliament, hunted by his people, deserted by his relations, and without a friend he could trust. Irresolution always accompanies a declining fortune. The determination to remayne at Newark abandoned as speedily as it had been adopted, and without any reasonable object in view,

view, this miserable monarch began to march northward. He got to Tuxford the first day, and to Welbeck the second. Here he received an account that a larger armie from Scotland, than England had yet seen, were on their march to Newark, having subdued all opposition in the north. Doomed to be the sport off fortune, and not knowing where to wander, he turned back, but could not bear the thoughts off seeing Newark, which had been the latest and the cruelest scene off all his troubles. He retired himself, with his guards, to Southwell. He sent the Lord Digby and Sir Marmaduke Langdale, with one thousand five hundred horse, to force their way into Scotland to Montross, in hopes his fortunes might there revive in the absence off the Scotch armie. The remainder off the troops he ordered back to Newark.

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The day after his Majestie arrived at Southwell, walking about the town, as it was his practice to do, he went into the shop off one James Lee, a fanatical shoemaker. Finding his person was not known, he entered into conversation with Crispin, and in the end was measured for a pair off shoes. Lee had no sooner taken his Majesties foot into his hand to measure him, than eyeing him very attentively, he was suddenly seized with a panick and would not go on. The King, surprized at his behaviout, pressed him to proceed, but Crispin absolutely refused, saying, he was the customer himself had been warned off in his sleep the night before, that he was doomed to destruction, and those would never thrive who worked for him. The forlorn Monarch, whose misfortunes had opened his minde to the impressions of

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superstition,

superstition, uttered an ejaculation expressive of his resignation to the will of Providence, and retired to the Palace which was the place of his abode. News soon reached him, that the horse which were gone northward under the Lord Digby and Sir Marmaduke Langdale were entirely defeated. Three armies were now pressing forward to surround him. The Scotch under their General, the Earl of Leven, were marching, according to their treatie with parliament, to invest Newark. Pointz, with a large detachment off the rebel forces from Chester, had got as far as Nottingham on the same errand, and all the Lincolnshire troops were att Grantham, under the command off Roffiter. The King once determined to have remayned at Southwell, and delivered himself into the hands off Leven, whom he believed to be personally

ally attached to him in gratitude for old favours, particularly for having made him an Earl, of which he had been very ambitious, when his Majesty went to Scotland in 1641, to redress the grievances complained off by that nation. His friends, however, dissuaded him from this, and news arriveing that the garrison off Nottingham had been informed where he was, and were coming in pursuite off him, he instantly departed for Newark, where he had not been gone two hours, when two hundred horse came from Nottingham to have taken him.

He remayned at Newark three days, settling the disorders off the garrison, and confirming the Lord Bellafize in the government off it. The enemies forces being every day drawing nearer, the difficultie

of escapeing being continually greater, in the night off the 3d off November, with about five hundred horse, he marched out off Newark, and, proceeding close by the river Trent for some miles, slipped between the forces under Pointz, which were stationed from Kelham southward, and those under Roffiter, which were posted from the Beacon-hill on the east side of the town towards Farndon on the south. His Majestie arrived at Belvoir before morninge, where the Governour only being apprized off his approach, was ready with somemore horse, and guides, to conduct him on his way to Oxford. He passed by the enemies garrisons in the castles of Burleigh on the hill, and Rockingham, and got to Daintree, where the Oxford horse meeting him, conducted him safe to that citie. Every armie, which the King had brought
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into the field, was now destroyed, except that under the Prince of Wales in the west, whose defeat soon followed, and his Royal Highness escaped abroad."

The following lines not being inapplicable to this subject, are inserted,

In an alcove, commanding a view of Naseby field, in the pleasure ground of the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Cullen at Rushton.

Where yon blue field scarce meets our streaming eyes,
A fatal name for England, NASEBY lies.
There hapless CHARLES beheld his fortune cross'd,
His forces vanquish'd, and his kingdom lost.
There gallant Lisle a mark for thousands stood,
And Dornier seal'd his loyalty in blood;
Whilst down yon hill's steep side with headlong force,
Victorious Cromwell chac'd the northern horse.
Hence Anarchy our church and state profan'd,
And tyrants in the mask of Freedom reign'd.

200 THE HISTORY OF NASEBY.

In times like these, when Party bears command,
And Faction scatters Discord thro' the land;
Let these sad scenes an useful lesson yield,
Lest future NASEBYS rise in every field.

Written by the Rev. Dr. Bennet, the present

Lord Bishop of Cork in Ireland.

The following was written for a Rustic
Altar in a Grove at Haselbeeck, Northamp-
tonshire.

SACRED TO MONARCHY, FREEDOM, AND
PEACE, THIS SMALL MONUMENT WAS PLA-
CED, IN SIGHT OF NASEBY CHURCH, 30th
JAN. 1771, BY G. ASHBY. MAY THE BEST OF
KINGS BE AFRAID OF NOTHING SO MUCH AS
INCROACHING UPON THE RIGHTS OF THE
PEOPLE! MAY THE SUBJECT, HOWEVER FOND
OF LIBERTY, BE QUIET, BE THANKFUL, SO
LONG AS HE HAS NO GRIEVANCES TO BE
REDRESSED!

Much

Much has been said, and many doubts have arisen, relative to the burial-place of the protector Cromwell; and the author of the Compleat history of England observes, that it still remains a question, where his body was really buried. “It was, says he, in appearance in Westminster Abby. Some report it was carried below bridge and thrown into the Thames. But it is most probable that it was buried in Naseby field. This account, continues he, is given, as ready to be deposed, if occasion required, by Mr. Barkstead the regicide’s son, who was about *fifteen* years old at the time of Cromwell’s death: “That the said Barkstead his father, being Lieutenant of the Tower, and a great confident of Cromwell’s, did, among other such confidents, in the time of his illness, desire to know where he would be buried: to which the

Protector

Protector answered, "where he had obtained the greatest victory and glory, and as nigh the spot as could be guessed, where the heat of the action was, viz. in the field at Naseby in com' Northampton." At midnight, soon after his death, the body (being first embalmed and wrapt in a leaden coffin) was in a hearse conveyed to the said field, Mr. Barkstead himself attending, by order of his father, close to the hearse. Being come to the field, they found about the midst of it, a grave dug about nine feet deep, with the green-sod carefully laid on one side, and the mould on the other; in which the coffin being put, the grave was instantly filled up, and the green-sod laid exactly flat upon it; care being taken that the surplus mould should be clean removed. Soon after the like care was taken that the ground should be plowed up, and

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it was sowed successively with corn." Several other material circumstances, says the fore-mentioned author, the said Mr. Barkstead, (who now frequents Richards's Coffee house within Temple-bar) relates relative to this burial."

Bankes's Life of Cromwell.

It is very extraordinary how this man Oliver, by unprecedented courage, and conduct, to the terror and astonishment of the whole world, raised himself from a private station to the sovereignty of these kingdoms, which he governed with an absolute sway, till he died, in 1658, a natural death; though he had long laboured under the utmost dread of assassination. I shall conclude with giving only one anecdote of the subtilty of this wonderful man, from Bankes's Life of Cromwell, which I hope

hope will not be unacceptable to my candid readers.

Jerry White, the pious chaplain to the protector, who ventured even to profane the sanctified palace of Cromwell by his gallantry, carried his ambition so far, as to think of becoming son-in-law to his Highness, by marrying his daughter the Lady Frances; and as Jerry had those requisites that generally please the fair sex, he won the affections of the young lady: but as nothing of this sort could happen without the knowledge of the watchful father, who had his spies in every place, and about every person, it soon reached his ears. There were as weighty reasons for rejecting Jerry, as there had been for dismissing his Majesty, Charles II. who had been proposed by the Earl of Orrery, as a husband.

husband. Oliver, therefore, ordered the informer to observe and watch them narrowly, and promised, that upon substantial proof of the truth of what he had declared, he should be as amply rewarded, as Jerry severely punished. It was not long before the informer acquainted his Highness, that the chaplain was then with the lady; and upon hastening to his daughter's apartment, he discovered the unfortunate Jerry upon his knees, kissing her ladyship's hand; seeing which, he hastily exclaimed, "What is the meaning of this posture before my daughter Frances?" The chaplain, with great presence of mind, replied, May it please your Highness, I have a long time courted that young gentlewoman there, my lady's woman, and cannot prevail; I was therefore humbly praying her ladyship to intercede for me. Oliver, turning to the

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waiting

waiting woman, said, "What is the meaning of this? he is my friend, and I expect you should treat him as such;" who desiring nothing more, replied, with a low courtesy, "If Mr. White intends me that honour, I should not oppose him." Upon which Oliver said, "We'll call Goodwin, this business shall be done presently, before I go out of the room." Jerry could not retreat; Goodwin came, and they were instantly married; the bride at the same time receiving gool from the protector.

Mr. Jerry White lived with this wife, (not of his choice) more than fifty years. Oldmixon says, he knew both him and Mrs. White, and heard the story told when they were present, at which time, Mrs. White acknowledged, there was something in it.

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